



KEARSNEY COLLEGE NEWS & Views

TERM 4: NOVEMBER 2025

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All-Round Excellence

Kearsney's annual Speech Night and prize-giving is always a special occasion celebrating the Matric achievers, the College's dedicated staff and supportive families. The College's exceptional academic standard was again highlighted, with 38 per cent of boys achieving an aggregate of 75 per cent or more.

Liam Oets was announced as Dux for 2025 with Academic Honours Cum Laude (over 86%), as well as the Afrikaans subject trophy, and his runner-up, Hayden Dunsdon, was also awarded Academic Honours Cum Laude, with subject prizes in Mathematics, Engineering Graphics and Design, and Information Technology.

The trophy for Best All-rounder in the 6th Form was awarded to Joel Steyn. He, too, achieved Academic Honours Cum Laude and subject prizes for Drama, Life Sciences (shared), English, and English Literature. His exceptional sporting talent saw him captain Kearsney's 1st hockey team and represent the College at indoor hockey, cricket and cross-country. As evidence of his leadership skills, Joel was also a prefect and Head of Sheffield House. (Continued on page 2).

Top KZN School in Maths Olympiad for 6th consecutive year



Mukona Marageni, Matthew Behrens and Thomas Schulze with Maths Teacher/coach, Ms Sue Hotz and Maths HOD/coach, Mr Rakubu Sokana. Full story on page 2.



L-R Hayden Dunston, runner-up to Dux, and Dux, Liam Oets

SARU U16 Early Player Development

Congratulations to Tunga Griffiths, Clement Makelele and Daniel Miskey on their selection for the U16 Early Player Development Programme. The players took part in a national camp in the September holidays. (Pictured below left).

SA U17 Elite Player Development

Congratulations to the following Kearsney rugby players who have been selected for the SA U17 Elite Player Development Squad: Clement Makelele, Nhlanhla Ndlovu and Lwazi Mbebe. This is a SARU development programme. A camp will be held from 28 November to 05 December and 58 talented players from around SA will take part. We wish the boys all the best.

All-Round Excellence

Continued from page 1.

A total of twelve Matrics achieved Academic Honours Cum Laude. In addition to Liam, Hayden and Joel, Josh Robertson, Joshua Griffiths, Jason de Gryse, Oliver Tubb, Kaylin Moodley, Thayuren Pillay, head prefect Luca Sandri, Nicholas Comrie and Lefa Kgomo also achieved over 86%.

Academic Honours (80-85%) were awarded to Kunashe Kamwendo, Joshua Painting, Kade Rencken, Connor van Heerden, Doan Nel, James Hastings-Brown, Luca Mindry, Othandwayo Mvelase, Tendekayi Moto, Jamie van Wyk, Austin Clewlow, Connor Grenfell and Raine Scoular.

Tjama Keta, Oagile Dingake, Kudakwashe Kachambwa, Ryan Osborn, Emre Ozok, Kantse Masilo, Tyler Jelliman, Nkolo Mthembu, James Sim, Cullen Abrahams, Luke Minne, Thabang Ramokgopa, Oliver Hind, Callum McGill, Petrus Snyman and Samuel Maziya achieved Academic Colours (75-79%).

We wish our students all the best for their Matric IEB Finals and all that lies ahead.

Top KZN School in Maths Olympiad for 6th consecutive year

Continued from page 1.

Kearsney crowned the Top School in KZN in the South African Mathematics Olympiad for an incredible sixth year in a row! We are incredibly proud of the achievements of our boys and their teachers. At the prestigious awards ceremony in Johannesburg on 25 October, Kearsney was crowned the Top School in KZN for the sixth consecutive year, and placed third overall in South Africa - a remarkable accomplishment. Pictured here are Thomas Schulze and Mukona Marageni (ranked 3rd best student in KZN in the

senior section), both of whom were placed among the Top 100 candidates nationally and wrote the challenging third-round paper. (Shavanth Chelladu, also ranked in the Top 100 nationally, was absent from the photo.) Also pictured is Matthew Behrens, who was the top senior student in the KZN Siyanqoba team during the Interprovincial South African Mathematics Team Competition. Congratulations to all our boys and their dedicated teachers on these outstanding results!

History Olympiad: Kearsney 1st in KZN



The young Kearsney historians continue to shoot the lights out, placing Kearsney number 1 in KZN and the second independent school in SA in the National Junior Online History Olympiad.

Congratulations to the following boys on their outstanding results:

Gold Certificates (top 5% nationally):
Jonathan Ellison
James Blomfield
Jack Ferreira
Kallen Ganesh

Silver Certificates (top 10% nationally):
Thomas Bishop

Bronze Certificates (top 15% nationally):
Declan de Haas
Thomas Waldburger
Musanda Nene
Mithra Seery

Second place in national JSE Investment Challenge

Report by *Mrs Charmaine Vermeulen*, Teacher in Charge, HOD Accounting.



Grade 10 team, "The Boiler Room", made up of Blake Rencken, Ryder Jordan, and James Hollins, who achieved remarkable success in the Equity Portfolio Challenge and achieved 2nd place nationally. Teacher in charge, Mrs Vermeulen, was with the team for the announcement at a ceremony held in Johannesburg.

The 2025 JSE Investment Challenge once again tested young investors nationwide, with a record 66,000 participants from 859 schools. Competing in simulated markets, teams traded shares to build profitable portfolios and develop financial literacy.

Kearsney entered two Grade 10 teams in the Equity Challenge and eight teams of Grade 8s and 9s in the Income Challenge, where investments were limited to JSE Top 40 companies. Over six months, pupils tracked trends, debated strategies and learned the realities of market volatility.

The standout team, The Boiler Room, with Blake Rencken, Ryder Jordan, and James Hollins, achieved over 25% returns to finish second nationally, just behind Ashton International College, Benoni. Dr Leila Fourie, JSE CEO, noted that the top teams even outperformed the broader market. All participants gained valuable insights into diversification, timing and emotional discipline, proving that investing demands both patience and teamwork. Beyond the competition, the Challenge inspired a deeper appreciation for the world of finance and the rewards of informed decision-making.

ATKV National Junior Olympiad

Report by *Mrs Jackie Gaines*, HOD Afrikaans.

On 08 September nine Junior pupils participated in the annual Afrikaans Olympiad, hosted by the Afrikaans Taal- en Kultuurvereniging (ATKV).

The boys represented the school with enthusiasm and dedication, engaging in an enriching language challenge that tested their Afrikaans proficiency and cultural understanding.

We are pleased to report commendable results: four pupils achieved B symbols.

Our top performers were two Grade 9 boys, Sven Kruger and Christo Badenhorst, who both demonstrated excellent skill and commitment.

This event provided a wonderful opportunity to extend our pupils beyond the classroom, fostering a deeper appreciation for and growth in Afrikaans.

Afrikaans Film Outing to Westown Square

Report by *Mrs Jackie Gaines*, HOD Afrikaans.

On Monday evening, 27 October, the Grade 11 Afrikaans First Additional Language pupils enjoyed an enriching outing to The Barn at Westown Square. They attended a public screening of their Matric set film, *Ballade vir 'n Enkeling*, on the big screen.

This event was the first of its kind in the province for an IEB school, offering pupils a rare and exciting opportunity to experience their Afrikaans set work in a cinematic format. The evening served as

an engaging introduction to their 2026 set work and offered valuable insights in a stimulating, memorable environment. The combination of the cinematic atmosphere, good food and snacks created an enjoyable, immersive experience for all. Kearsney extends its sincere appreciation to Westown Square for facilitating this special event.



Visual Arts Exhibition Opening (Subject Art)

Report by Mrs Joanne Hicks, HOD Visual Art.

The 2025 Visual Arts Exhibition opening was a resounding success and a milestone for the College’s art department. For the first time, the creative work of all Visual Arts students from Grades 8 to 12 was showcased together, transforming the venue into a vibrant celebration of talent, dedication and artistic growth.

The evening was well attended, with families, staff and students filling the space with enthusiastic support. The atmosphere was warm and festive, imbued with genuine admiration for the boys’ work. Representation from every grade created a strong sense of unity and continuity: younger students could glimpse what lies ahead, while the seniors stood proudly as role models and creative leaders.

The opening evening was both inspiring and celebratory. It marked an important moment for the College, not only as a display of artistic confidence but also as a reflection of a creative community that continues to grow stronger with each passing year.

Community Service

Report by Mr Manzini Zungu, Teacher in Charge.

Pawprints Partnership

Our boys recently partnered with Pawprints Rescue & Rehoming, an organisation dedicated to saving and rehoming abandoned dogs. Students helped walk dogs, care for puppies and support the shelter’s mission. The initiative fosters empathy, responsibility and a love for animals - making a difference one paw at a time.

Nkonka Conservancy Trust

Managed by Kearsney Old Boys under Mr Scott-Martin, the Nkonka Conservancy aims to restore 50 hectares of sour grassland at Haygarth Road, Kloof. Grade 9 Pilgrim Award boys contributed by removing invasive plants and developing bike and hiking trails, strengthening their leadership and environmental stewardship. Ikhethelo Children’s Village

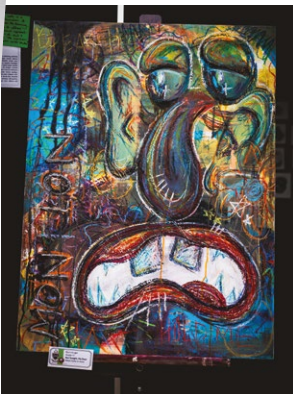
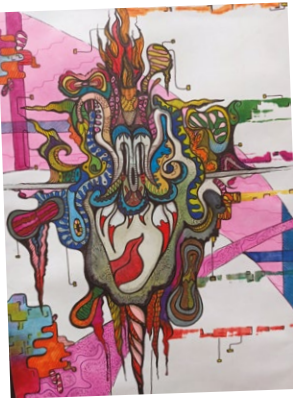
Our Grade 8 and 9 boys visited Ikhethelo

Children’s Village, a home and outreach hub for orphaned and vulnerable children.

Music Studio Concert (Subject Music)

Report by Mr Bernard Krüger, Director of Music.

These informal, small performances might seem insignificant, but they fulfil a crucial aspect of the music education process - performing on stage in front of an audience. This skill, which fills many people with thoughts of anxiety and horror, is intrinsically part of being a musician. In providing this platform to our music students, we teach them how to cope with aspects such as stage fright and to give their friends and family a chance to witness the fruits of their labour. At the most recent concert, we enjoyed performances by 14 boys, some of whom performed in public for the very first time, and others who are seasoned on stage. Creating this relatively comfortable environment is important for helping budding musicians build confidence to take the next step toward a more ‘high-stakes’ concert.



Grade 8 Music and Drama Showcase for subject practicals

Report by Mr Bernard Krüger, Director of Music and Ms Ulaetha Singh, HOD Drama.



Our annual Grade 8 Music Showcase, now in its 4th year, has become a highlight on the calendar for the boys, staff and parents alike. This year, we joined forces with the drama department, and the boys presented some of their practical drama work in between the musical numbers.

Every pupil in Grade 8 took part in a musical number during the concert. Each of our seven form classes formed a musical ensemble, guided by the instrumental and vocal skills available within that class. Boys with limited musical experience were paired with more proficient peers, resulting in a highly entertaining musical experience. The boys had the opportunity to select a popular song of their choice by mutual agreement. The pupils rehearsed during their weekly music lessons in Term 4 and competed for one of two prizes on the night: the ‘Most Disciplined Class’, and the ‘Best Performance’. In addition, this concert served as their final music assessment for the year, and the music department will use intensive multi-angle video analysis of the concert to determine each boy’s individual mark.

The budding Grade 8 thespians made their debut in an entertaining combined showcase with the Music Department. Selected scenes from each class were performed in a range of serious and light-hearted pieces across different genres, exploring styles including melodrama, realism and elements of physical theatre. The students created the scenes for their Final Practical Examination using AI in a meaningful way. Their task was to conceptualise the genre, style, plot, characters, themes, and staging of their scene, and then use these prompts to create it with AI. This culminated in an enjoyable evening, appreciated by a supportive audience of peers and parents.



Grade 9 and 11 Drama Showcase (Subject Drama)

On 30 October, the Drama department hosted a wonderful showcase featuring the performance work of Grade 9 and 11 Drama students. Selected Grade 9s performed their AI-generated comedy scenes, and the Grade 11 Drama students performed a several scenes from plays such as ‘The Barber Shop Chronicles’, ‘Chariots of Fire’ and ‘Reduced Shakespeare - Hamlet’. Parents were blown away by the standard of the work presented by both grades, with many commenting on the acting talents of the pupils, many of whom they had never seen on stage before.

The Drama department continues to nurture the hidden talents of all College students, often uncovering stars in the most unlikely places.



Thank you to Akim Nsingo (Grade 9) and Jaiden Luthuli (Grade 8) for the photos.



Photographic competition

Report by Ms Andrea Fripp.

This year's annual photographic competition drew an exceptional range of entries from pupils across multiple schools and provinces, reflecting a high level of artistic vision and technical ability among young photographers. Serving as a vibrant platform for creative expression, the competition encourages students to explore new perspectives and rethink traditional ways of viewing the world.



Oscar Wolff, Steinkopf.



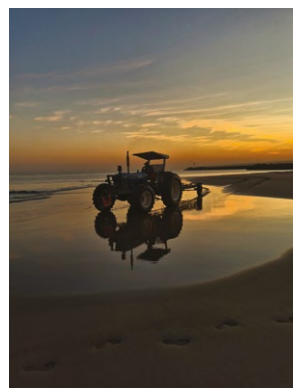
Oscar Wolff, Defeat.



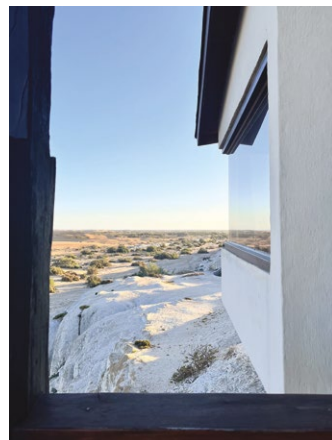
G. Sanmarkam, Beauty and the Bee.



Benjamin Hempson, Reflections.



Leigh-Ann Hollington, Industrial Dawn.



Matthew Behrens, Namibian View.

With four carefully curated categories designed to stretch imagination and skill, the submissions displayed remarkable innovation, depth, and originality. Beyond technical proficiency, the photographs revealed compelling visual narratives, demonstrating the power of photography as a storytelling medium. Judges praised the maturity, creativity, and passion evident in every category.

We extend our warmest congratulations to all entrants, finalists, and winners. Their outstanding work not only captivated the audience but also reinforced the essential role of the arts in promoting creativity, critical thinking, and personal expression within our school community.

The following Kearsney boys were awarded prizes:

Category 1: Up Close and Personal

Third place: *Captain.*

Akim Nsingo and Ndaramo Sithole

Category 2: My Inspiration

Highly Commended: *Superman.*

Anthony Wallis

Category 3: Architecture

Second: *Namibian View.*

Matthew Behrens

Category 4: Reflections

Highly Commended: *Reflections.*

Ben Hempson

Highly Commended: *Raindrops.*

Matthew Macpherson



Annual Music Dinner

The annual music dinner is an evening of good food and live music, celebrating the marvellous achievements of our talented musicians at the College. The Music Department has hosted this event since 2023, and it has become a wonderful new tradition in which we recognise and thank the boys for their sacrifices in pursuing excellence in music. Boys in the choir and orchestra and their parents are invited to the dinner. Various awards are given, some in jest, but some of the prizes have become coveted, such as the MVP (Most Valuable Player) in the choir and the orchestra. It is a privilege to be in a school where music and the performing arts are celebrated and respected by the entire school. At the dinner, we also took time to thank the individual staff members and parents who regularly assist with events, and the new leaders for 2026 were announced.

Dale Carnegie: Grade 11s

Report by Mrs Maryke Venter, Teacher in Charge.

Highest Achievement Award

This Highest Achievement Award is for someone whose words align with his actions – someone who truly walks the talk of the Dale Carnegie principles. He consistently comes prepared to every lesson, applies the Human Relation principles, and demonstrates personal growth while leading with integrity. A true team player, he constantly encourages his peers and approached the Dale Carnegie content with conviction and passion.

The recipient in Term 1 was Joshua-Peter Clark, and Jonty Wiggett in Term 3.

The skills acquired include effective communication, listening with understanding, leadership, valuing team effectiveness over personal advantage, people skills, and the ability to foster an atmosphere of trust, emotional awareness and intelligence.

The Dale Carnegie Generation Next training focuses on skills for future success, guiding young people to tap into their strengths to create positive change. Dale Carnegie wisely said that

people rarely succeed unless they enjoy what they are doing, and this certainly proved true for our group of 25 Grade 11 pupils. Each participant thoroughly enjoyed the course and gained valuable insights about themselves and their peers.

Facilitated by Mrs Prevani Goodwin, the course required dedication and perseverance to complete all eight modules over the term. Joshua-Peter Clark and Jonty Wiggett were awarded the Highest Achievement Award in their respective terms, demonstrating exemplary leadership and fully embodying the Dale Carnegie principles. They completed the programme mastering the five drivers of success: leadership principles, effective communication, self-confidence, stress reduction and a positive attitude.

We congratulate all our Grade 11s who completed the course in 2025. As tomorrow's leaders, you have made us proud and shown the potential to make a real difference.

Top Right: Term 1 Recipient- Joshua-Peter Clark
Right: Term 3 Recipient- Jonty Wiggett



The Inner Circle

Report by Mrs Jane Curtiss, Teacher in Charge.



Connor Grenfell (Best Prepared Speech) and Kantse Masilo (Sustained Excellence trophy)

At the final Inner Circle Formal dinner for 2025, the following boys were awarded trophies for these categories:

Best Table Topic (Pair): Jason Denekamp and Liam Botha

Best Impromptu Speech: Nevaal Arbee

Best Icebreaker: Ethan King

Best Introduction of Speaker: JP Clark

Best Prepared Speech: Connor Grenfell

Best Vote of Thanks: Jason Denekamp

The Adam Rogers Trophy (for sustained excellence in public speaking throughout the year): Kantse Masilo.

The parents of the Grade 12 boys were invited to attend the final dinner to celebrate the conclusion of their sons' membership in the Inner Circle. The Inner Circle also had the pleasure of entertaining two long-serving members of staff who will be retiring at the end of the year; both Mrs Sue Murray and Mrs Sonia Cairns have been champions for the public speaking societies of the Inner and Speakers' Circles over their many years at Kearsney. The evening was expertly run by the Inner Circle Chairman Connor Grenfell, with assistance from Vice-Chairman Kantse Masilo as well as the Sergeant-at-Arms JP Clark.

2026 Leadership Team

On 17 October, we announced the leadership body for 2026. Congratulations to the following boys who will serve the College next year.

SCHOOL PREFECTS

- HEAD OF SCHOOL:** Luke Fauré
- DEPUTY HEAD OF SCHOOL:** Nhlanhla Ndlovu
- Head of KCC:** Jason Denekamp
- Head of Academics:** Nevaal Arbee
- Head of Culture:** Samkele Mahanjana
- Head of Imbizo:** Azania Thela
- Head of Spirituality:** Zanda Mnqayi
- Head of Community:** Rhys Hughes
- Head of Sport:** Michael Groom
- Head of Amasiko:** Conor McKeown
- Head of Day Boys:** James Bishop

Heads of Houses are also school prefects.



Deputy Head, Mr Nkuli Gamede, Luke Faure, Nhlanhla Ndlovu and Headmaster, Mr Patrick Lees



HOUSE PREFECTS

- HALEY**
- Head of House:** Liam Botha
- Deputy:** Kabo Ramodibedi
- Prefects:** Andrew James, Daniel Berlyn, Connor van Heerden, Zanda Mnqayi, Sethembele Cindi



- FINNINGLEY**
- Head of House:** Keanu Williamson
- Deputy:** Ethan Badish
- Prefects:** Oliver Ludwig, Luhle Ndlovu, Kai McCormick



- GILLINGHAM**
- Head of House:** Jonty Wiggett
- Deputy:** Michael Groom
- Prefects:** Levi Edwards, Michael Lang, Jesse de Jager



- PEMBROKE**
- Head of House:** Wandile Sibisi
- Deputy:** Thomas Aylward
- Prefects:** Mpumi Mkhize, Luke Grobbelaar, Thomas Francke



- SHEFFIELD**
- Head of House:** Mothapo Kekana
- Deputy:** Azania Thela
- Prefects:** Blake Pugh, Lwazi Mbebe, Keegan de Jager



KEARSNEY COLLEGE



Carpe Diem

PROVINCIAL SELECTIONS

KZN Coastals Cricket selections

Congratulations to our cricketers who have been selected to the various KZN Coastals teams: Ryan Staats (KZN U15, Green Team); Gary Verbaan and Asher Hollister (KZN U15, Blue Team); Rivan Moodley and Aaron Blackburn (KZN U16); Keegan de Jager (KZN U17); and Litha Gonya (KZN U19). Well done to the boys on putting in all the hard work and discipline over the years to earn this honour. We also congratulate Mr Cameron Gordon, who has been appointed Head Coach of the KZN U15 Blue Team.

KZN Water Polo selections

We are very proud to have 18 boys selected to represent KZN Water Polo across the various age-group teams. Congratulations to these boys on this fantastic achievement. Well done on putting in the incredible hard work and discipline required to get to the top. We wish the boys and their teams all the best.

Water Polo Top 10 Tournament Winners

Kearsney participated in the annual 'Top 10 Tournament,' which showcases the top ten water polo schools in KwaZulu-Natal. While each age group competes for its own trophy, Kearsney's outstanding performance across the board secured the College the overall trophy for the second consecutive year.

Through a cumulative points system, our teams accumulated enough points to claim the championship, demonstrating remarkable depth and consistency across all age groups.

A breakdown of our teams' results:
U14s (Placed 2nd)
U15s (Placed 4th)
1st Team (Placed 2nd)

This was another tremendous success for Kearsney's Water Polo programme, which has consistently maintained excellent results.



KZN Coastal selection

KZN Water Polo

Congratulations to the players who were selected for KZN Water Polo teams.

19A Oliver Ludwig Thomas Aylward Thomas Franke	15A Christiano Sandri - Kearsney Dru Mills - Kearsney
19B Rourke Stacey	14A Blake Gaines - Kearsney Cai Terblanche - Kearsney Mason Allan - Kearsney Thomas Ludwig - Kearsney
16A James Whalmore - Kearsney Max Mills - Kearsney Non-Travelling reserve: Aston Grace	14B Nic Caley Callan Botha Zac Hopf Jayden Dellar Josh Coventry



Top 10 Tournament winners: Kearsney's outstanding performance across the board secured the College the overall trophy for the second consecutive year. MIC/ Coach Mr Nick Rodda and Thomas Aylward receive the trophy.

SA U17 Hockey

Keegan de Jager played for the SA U17 Boys' Hockey team in the Dato Mirnawan Cup international competition in Malaysia in early November. Keegan scored a hat-trick, helping the team beat Malaysia 4-2 in their second match, after beating Australia 2-0 on Day 1.



KZN Indoor Hockey

Congratulations to the following pupils who were selected for KZN Indoor Hockey teams.

 U16A Dylan Forbes	 U16B Khulekani Zuma	 U16B Thomas Schulze	 U16 Non-travelling reserve Christo Badenhorst
 U16 Non-travelling reserve Luke Mendes de Oliveira	 U14A Taylor Ludlow	 U14B Rowan den Bakker	 U14B Jordan Summerford

Water Polo
U14A Water Polo team dominate

The water polo U14A quality was undeniable as they swept through the competition under the expert guidance of Coach Chelci Rodda. The team claimed top honours in prestigious tournaments, including three 1st places and 2nd in the Top 10 Tournament.

Curro U15 Tournament – 1st Place.
Hilton U14 Tournament – The team was crowned champions. The victory was made more memorable by Cai Terblache being named Player of the Tournament.
Rondebosch Tournament (Western Cape) – The squad continued their winning form, securing another 1st place finish and solidifying their reputation as a national force at the age-group level.
Annual Top 10 Tournament – In a display of grit and skill, the team fought their way to the final, finishing an impressive 2nd place in a field of the region's best teams.



Under 14 A water Polo

Kearsney 1st Water Polo Team Shines at Northwood Stayers' Tournament

The Kearsney College 1st team water polo squad delivered an outstanding performance at the annual Northwood Stayers Tournament, showcasing skill, resilience, and teamwork throughout the weekend.

This year's tournament was held later than usual due to a change in the school calendar, resulting in the absence of several top teams-including Affies, Hilton, and DHS-who were unavailable due to final exams.

Despite fielding a younger-than-usual side, Kearsney dominated their pool with a string of convincing victories:
Kearsney defeated Glenwood 19-5
Kearsney defeated Michaelhouse Invitational 16-4 (against a non-Grade 11 side)
Kearsney defeated Northwood 10-6
Kearsney defeated Maritzburg College 10-3

Advancing to the semi-finals, Kearsney faced Clifton, who had previously lost to Westville 7-1 in pool play. In a tightly contested match, Kearsney fell just short, losing 7-9. Grade 10 standout Max Mills delivered a remarkable performance, scoring six of Kearsney's seven goals.

In the 3rd/4th place playoff, Kearsney bounced back with a hard-fought 10-8 win over Westville Boys' High, securing a well-deserved third-place finish.



Record number of 1st team caps

James Pohl has set a new water polo record with 198 caps for our first team, surpassing the previous record of 176 caps set by Blake Kruger (Class of 2024). We congratulate James on this incredible achievement.



Milestones: Max Mills 50 1st team caps, Rourke Stacey 100 and James Whatmore 50.

The tournament also saw notable individual milestones, with three players earning prestigious caps:
Max Mills – 50 caps
James Whatmore – 50 caps
Rourke Stacey – 100 caps

Kearsney's performance reflects the depth of talent and promising future of the squad. Well done to the players and coaching staff on a memorable tournament.

Sean Rowan Gold for Powerlifting in World Champs

Sean won Gold in his division at the WPC World Powerlifting Championship in the Classic Raw Teen 2 (16-17) under 82.5kg category.

He achieved:
135kg: Back Squat
70kg: Bench Press
145kg: Deadlift
Total: 350kg



Soccer Season brings joy for players

Report compiled by Coaches Messers Wayne Amos, Manzini Zungu and Ryan Liberty.

Term 3 started with inter-house, with A and B teams in each age group (U14, U15, U16, Opens). This competition was won by Sheffield, with Finningley second, Pembroke third, and Gillingham fourth.

Soccer is hugely popular amongst the boys of the College, and this season Kearsney once again fielded 32 teams. The 1st team participated in three tournaments-the Kloof Tournament, the Kearsney Tournament, and the Big Ten Tournament -while the U14s attended the Northwood Tournament.

The season concluded with the 1st team dinner, where the following awards were presented:

- Player's Player of the Year (voted by the players):** Hlako Rachidi
- Most Improved Player:** Sethembele Cindi
- The Most Valuable Player of 2025 (coaches' vote):** Hayden Dunsdon



Annual Soccer Awards 2025



Kearsney wins the Independent Schools Basketball Tournament

Kearsney hosted the annual Independent Schools Stayers Basketball Tournament, which brings together the top basketball-playing schools to compete for bragging rights each year. This year, the number of teams was reduced to fourteen schools, competing in two pools of seven, aiming to finish in the top two in their pool and reach the semi-finals. Both pools were extremely competitive, and it wasn't until the final pool games were played that the final pool standings were decided. St Benedict's College played the hosts, Kearsney, in the first semi-final, which saw Kearsney win 47-42. St John's College played St David's Marist Inanda in the second semi-final, and St John's emerged victorious 48-41 in a very competitive match.

This set up a rematch from Pool B between St John's and Kearsney, with Kearsney losing 41-47. The final was an absorbing and tense arm wrestle with St John's. They were up 30 - 28 at halftime. Kearsney started the third quarter strongly. St John's weathered the onslaught and were ahead 43-38 at the end of the quarter. The fourth quarter did not go according to script, and ended with both teams on 48 points. The game went into overtime, with neither team managing to pull ahead, necessitating a second overtime period. This proved to be a tense affair; St John's scored a three-pointer to go ahead. Kearsney answered with a three-pointer of their own, and the shooter was fouled, which put him off the free throw line, and as he had done all game, Pabatso Sithole made the free throw which gave Kearsney the lead 57 - 56 with three second on the clock. The Kearsney players kept St John's from scoring and held on for an epic win!

This must have been one of the best finals that the tournament has produced. Credit must go to both teams, who put on an incredible display of schoolboy sport. Those who witnessed the game will be talking about it for a long time.

Other Tournaments

During the second weekend of the holidays, the Kearsney stayers' first team participated in the Westville Stayers Tournament, which featured 15 of the best government schools in the country. The team progressed to the semi-finals, where they faced ESCA Wonderers, but the fatigue of playing two tournaments so close together caught up to them, and they lost narrowly. They then faced Northwood in the third- and fourth-place playoff, and while they put in a credible performance, Northwood came out on top.

The Kearsney U15A team also participated in the Home Turf Hoops tournament hosted by Northwood. They made it to the quarter finals but lost narrowly to the Kings School Linbro Park. They finished in 7th place.

The U14As and Bs participated in the Michaelhouse U14 Basketball festival, the played a number of games and had mixed results. The teams learned a great deal and the competitive games have stood them in good stead for the upcoming season.



SA U18A Rugby

A special thank you to to Nhlanhla Ndlovu, who has donated his SA U18 rugby jersey to the College. We are humbled by this very generous gesture. Nhlanhla played for the SA U18A team in their matches against Ireland, Georgia and France in August. The jersey will be framed and hung up in the Greyhound Pavilion.

Squash Tour to Cape Town

The 1st Squash team travelled to the Cape Town Stayers' Tournament in Cape Town this term. They faced tough competition from around the country while preparing for next season.

Kearsney lost tightly contested fixtures against St John's College, York High and Grey PE, but secured comfortable victories against Hoërskool Outeniqua and the St John's 2nd Team.



KERF Sponsorship Opportunities

The Kearsney College Foundation has exciting sponsorship opportunities available at the flagship Kearsney Easter Rugby Festival 2026 (KERF).

This prestigious event sees some of South Africa's top rugby schools battling it out over three days, and attracts over 14,000 spectators and extensive digital exposure,

including on SuperSport Schools. Contact us and ensure your brand ENJOYS the KERF experience.

Please contact the Kearsney Foundation office at foundation@kearsney.com or 031 765 9650 before the end of January 2026 to explore how you can be a part of this famous festival.



International Cricket



Cade Carmichael, Kearsney Cricket captain 2020, with the annual provincial T20 trophy, which Kearsney won.

Congratulations to Cade Carmichael (Class of 2020) for being selected for his cricket test debut for Ireland's cricket team. Ireland is playing against Bangladesh at the Sylhet International Cricket Stadium. Ireland batting coach Gary Wilson said; "Cade has come off the back of heavy scoring in domestic. He has good attributes that we like. He looked very accomplished on his ODI debut against the West Indies earlier in the year. [Carmichael] is someone that we have high hopes for. He looks like a very good player. He is only 23."

On Day 1 Cade, batting at number 3, scored 59 off 129 balls.



Sir Liege Hulett Awards

At our recent Speech Night and Prize Giving, the Kearsney Foundation office was honoured to bestow the Sir Liege Hulett Award to the following benefactors:

Mr Grant Smith (Pembroke, 1969) – for his remarkable dedication through his continuous support of both the USA & Canada Bursary Fund and the Kearsney College Foundation Bursary & Scholarship Programme. His generosity, always offered when called upon, has had a direct and lasting impact on the lives of many Kearsney boys. His steadfast commitment reflects the true spirit of giving.

Dr Michael Hall (Gillingham, 1953) – for the instrumental role he has played in advancing Kearsney's vision. His determination to grow the USA & Canada Bursary Fund – inspiring other Old Boys to join in this legacy of giving – demonstrating not only generosity but also a profound belief in the power of education to transform lives.

Mr Leif Gjestland (Gillingham, 1950) – who embodies the very essence of philanthropy. Guided by his unwavering Christian values, he established the Gjestland Ministerial Fund, ensuring that future generations of Kearsney boys would benefit from opportunities that might otherwise have been beyond their reach.

All three were re-awards, underlining the incredible generosity of these gentlemen over a long period of time.

Established in 2006 by the Kearsney Governors, the Sir Liege Hulett Award is the highest honour for benefaction at Kearsney College, and is recognition of donations to the College in excess of R750,000, in today's money. The award honours those individuals, families, corporates, and foundations whose generosity ensures the College's sustainability and continued excellence through the growth of the Kearsney Development Fund.

Every gift to Kearsney College has a direct impact on the provision of world-class facilities and education of students, ensuring that the College remains a leading independent South African school.



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
– Nelson Mandela.

Kearsney College views giving back as both a privilege and a duty, committed to uplifting underprivileged communities and building a better future for South Africa. In 2025, the Kearsney College Foundation will launch the Fundela iKusasa Academy – an academic enrichment programme aimed at empowering talented children from disadvantaged backgrounds by providing access to quality education and foundational academic support. Using Kearsney's facilities and teaching resources, the Academy will support promising youngsters from under-resourced schools, helping unlock their potential and improve their future prospects.

For more information, contact Shantell van Jaarsveld at foundation@kearsney.com or call 031 765 9600.



Watch a video about the Fundela iKusasa Academy programme.



The Kearsney Foundation honours our volunteers, supporters, donors, sponsors and parents who have generously contributed to the advancement of the College over the past year. We gratefully acknowledge and thank you for every gift, recognising that an institution such as Kearsney flourishes through its strong community of passionate stakeholders. Should you wish to know more about the Kearsney College Foundation, please contact Shantell van Jaarsveld at svanjaarsveld@kearsney.com or foundation@kearsney.com.

The Foundation wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Thank you to the Class of 2025

It was an emotional day today, as we bade farewell to the Class of 2025 at their Final Assembly.

Following the moving service, the Matrics passed through a guard of honour formed by the boys and teachers, and it was wonderful to see the mutual respect and affection. Well done to the Class of 2025 on a successful five years. Thank you for your immense contribution to the College and for your outstanding year as leaders of the College. It has been a wonderful journey.





Best wishes for a lovely holiday, special Christmas and wonderful 2026.



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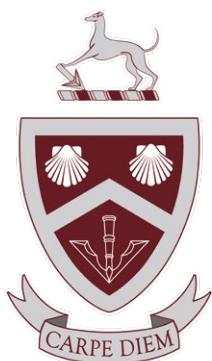
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**KEARSNEY
COLLEGE**

Thought for the Moment

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

As Advent approaches, we take time to consider the great mystery of Christmas – that God has stepped into our story as Jesus and that the Christ who has come as baby Jesus is the same Christ who will return as Lord. But this Jesus doesn't belong on a day in history or on one day in the future. The true gift of Christmas is that Jesus Christ continues to come to us, stepping into the details of our daily life even now. Because Jesus was born, God is God-with-us and we are not left to face daily life alone. May the mystery of Christmas surprise you again this year as you notice God at work in the details of your day, remembering that His light shines in the darkness.

Rev. Kym Bishop
Chaplain

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