



DISCOVER UPLANDS

PRE-PREPARATORY • PREPARATORY • COLLEGE • OUTREACH

UPLANDS NEWSLETTER - TERM 3 (2026)



Message from the Uplands Executive Head

Imagine

Dear Parents

As we come to the end of another busy term, I would like us to pause for a moment and simply imagine.

Imagine what Uplands could look like five years from now.

Imagine a Grade 7 class heading down to the wetland to learn about rehabilitation and rewilding, not because it is a special outing, but because the Lowveld has become part of their everyday classroom. Imagine our College pupils working alongside conservationists and researchers, looking at real environmental challenges, and thinking about possible solutions. Imagine our youngest children outside exploring, asking questions, and discovering more about the natural world around them.

The exciting thing is that much of this already happens at Uplands. Perhaps the opportunity for us now is simply to ask: what more could it become?

Imagination can sometimes be seen as dreaming, but I think it is much more important than that. Before we can improve something, solve a problem or see a different way forward, we first need to be able to imagine what is possible.

Our Academic Tree speaks to this. We want our pupils to question, to stretch themselves, to communicate their ideas and to understand stewardship, particularly their responsibility towards others and the environment. At the centre is Emotional Intelligence, reminding us that education is also about understanding other people and being able to see the world through someone else's eyes.

As we move towards our Centenary and begin thinking about Uplands' second century, we have a wonderful opportunity to build on what is already strong, while continuing to ask what we could do even better. Perhaps that is the challenge for all of us, pupils and adults alike: Look at what is around you. Ask what is possible. And imagine what could be.

- Mr Sean Carlisle



A Century of Excellence
SAVE THE DATE: 25 - 28 MAY 2028

For more information contact Sally Greathead (sgreathead@uplands.co.za)



Today's thinking child is tomorrow's achiever

PRE-PREPARATORY

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**Head of Uplands
Pre-Preparatory**

Ms Janine Stott

There is something rather wonderful about being little enough to imagine almost anything. A fallen branch becomes a fort, a mud kitchen serves the finest chocolate cake, and a patch beneath the trees can become an entirely new world.

Our Little Uplanders remind us daily that imagination is far more than make-believe. It is where ideas begin, problems find new solutions and children learn to see beyond what is right in front of them.

Perhaps one of the greatest gifts of these early years is giving children the time, space and freedom to wonder, create and imagine what might be.

Grade 0000_0

"This is magic!" exclaimed a little Cub as a leaf appeared beneath their crayon during leaf rubbing under the trees. Leaves were crunched and tossed joyfully into the air, becoming butterfly families fluttering through the garden, hiding places for creepy crawlies, food for dinosaurs and decorations for muddy cakes. Through these playful encounters with nature, the Cuddly Cubs discovered that with a little imagination, something ordinary can become wonderfully extraordinary.



Grade 00

The beginning of Spring was filled with colour, curiosity and discovery for the Happy Hippos. The children picked bright bougainvillea petals, crushed them with a mortar and pestle until soft and pulpy, then added a little water. They squeezed out the liquid and watched in amazement as a rich pink-red dye appeared. Their imagination came alive as they painted with nature's colour.



Grade 0

Spring Day arrived in a wonderful whirl of colour, sparkle and creativity! As beautiful Chinese lanterns danced gently above our outdoor space, little eyes looked up in wonder, and little hands reached high towards the colourful creations. "Can we make them even prettier?" seemed to be the question of the day.

Paintbrushes swished, colourful cut-outs were carefully chosen, and sparkling sequins were added to make each lantern shine. Every child had their own special idea and each return to the activity brought another exciting creation to life.



What began as a simple creative activity soon became a world of colour, imagination and wonder floating right above our heads.



Grade 000



Our Zippy Zebras have been letting their imaginations run wild! From wheelbarrow forts and play dough creations to tortoise shells, garden equipment and an Elsa castle, the children have turned everyday materials into new games, stories and creations. It has been wonderful to watch them build on one another's ideas, create together and take their play in wonderfully unexpected directions.



Little Uplanders Share a Little Love for Our Trees

Arbor Day gave our "Little Uplanders" a chance to show some love for our trees. Together they painted trees, created hearts and love notes, and made decorations with sticks and ribbons to hang from the branches. Along the way, we talked about all that trees give us and why caring for them matters in our gardens and the wider world.





Head of Uplands
Preparatory

Mr Scott Hauptfleisch

As Term 3 draws to a close, we have seen integrity come to life across Uplands Prep. From Mandela Day service and new classroom experiences to *Tales of the African Fire*, sport and culture, our pupils have embraced many opportunities with enthusiasm and pride. Integrity is about doing what is right, even when nobody is watching, while treating others with kindness and respect. May we continue encouraging our children to live these values each day.

PREPARATORY

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Foundation phase



Imagine... A term of adventure!

What an imaginative and exciting term we have had in Foundation Phase. The highlight was undoubtedly our spectacular *Tales of the African Fire* production. Our children delighted audiences with vibrant dancing, enthusiastic acting and colourful costumes. What a celebration of African storytelling and talent!

Our pupils also took their learning beyond the classroom. Grade 1s explored a wildlife sanctuary, Grade 2s discovered the Botanical Gardens, and Grade 3s ventured into the Kruger National Park. What a privilege to experience such wonderful adventures.

It was a busy term on the sports field too, with cricket and hockey keeping everyone active and enthusiastic.

Our teachers have also been learning and growing, attending NumberSense and Jolly Phonics workshops to further enrich their teaching.

Imagine. Explore. Discover. Grow.
What a wonderful term it has been.



Sports

Foundation Phase

This term, our Foundation Phase learners brought imagination, energy and enthusiasm to the sporting field. From mini cricket and mini hockey to the excitement of midi hockey, our young athletes embraced every opportunity to learn, play and grow. Our U9 boys also stepped up to the challenge of 11-a-side cricket, showing teamwork, courage and a wonderful love for sport.

Senior Phase

What a fantastic term of sport it has been at Uplands Preparatory. From cricket and hockey to tennis and soccer pre-season, our pupils have shown incredible energy, determination and teamwork.

It has been wonderful to see their skills develop, confidence grow and, most importantly, their enjoyment of sport shine through.

A big thank-you to our coaches, staff and parents for their continued support and encouragement. Well done to all our pupils for their hard work, sportsmanship and commitment. What a term of sporting excitement.



Weekend with the Boarders

Our Uplands Preparatory boarders recently enjoyed a wonderful weekend full of nature and fellowship.

They visited the beautiful Botanical Gardens where they discovered amazing waterfalls and took an adventurous walk across the suspension bridge – a highlight for everyone.

After attending church, they ended the weekend on a high note with an amazing braai down at the campus dam. Lots of laughter, good food and special memories together. A perfect weekend of adventure, faith and family time.



Growing Our House Legacy

This year, we proudly unveiled the plaques for our House Trees, adding another special chapter to the story and traditions of Uplands. Each of our Houses has its own tree, chosen as a living symbol of the character, spirit and legacy of the House:

Fuller House | Baobab

Strong, enduring and deeply rooted, the Baobab is a fitting symbol of resilience and strength.

Ogilvie House | Jackalberry

A tree that thrives and endures, the Jackalberry represents growth, perseverance and the importance of putting down strong roots.

Webb House | Coral Tree

Striking and distinctive, the Coral Tree reflects energy, character and the vibrant spirit of Webb House.

The unveiling of the plaques was more than simply marking a tree. It was about planting a legacy. These trees will grow alongside generations of Uplands pupils, becoming a lasting reminder of the friendships, achievements, challenges and memories created within our Houses.

Our pupils may move on, but their roots remain here.
Three Houses. Three trees. One Uplands family.



Culture

Drumbusters Brings the Beat to Uplands

We were delighted to welcome Drumbusters back to Uplands this term. Our Uplands Preparatory pupils had an incredible time drumming, learning new techniques, and discovering the joy of making music together. This is always a highlight for our pupils, as every child gets their own drum and the whole group gets to drum along to an exciting beat. There is nothing quite like the energy, rhythm and enthusiasm that fills the room when everyone plays together. A big thank-you to Drumbusters for another fun-filled and memorable drumming experience.

Faith

Jesus strengthens us as we persist in all we do toward the finish line of this year.

Look behind and see His faithfulness. Look ahead and see His provision. Look up now and see His constant presence with you. He loves you, knows you, carries you and is with you.

When Jesus walks on water in John 6, He invites Peter the Disciple to follow Him on water too. Peter walks on water so long as He has his eyes on Jesus. This is true for us. We can walk over any storm, any choppy waters, when we have our focus on God.





Head of Uplands College

Mr Allan Laing

It is hard to imagine that we are at the end of the third term and staring down the barrel of the year's end. Our Matric pupils have started focusing on their Final Examinations and imagining life after school. Our hope is that they are well prepared for their role in society.

As we celebrate Heritage Month this September, we are reminded that heritage is not only about where we come from, but also about the stories, traditions and values that connect us. At Uplands College, we are proud of the rich diversity of cultures, languages and backgrounds represented within our community. It is this diversity that enriches our learning, broadens our understanding and strengthens the sense of belonging that makes Uplands College so special.

While Uplands as a school celebrates its nearly 100-year history, Heritage Month gives us an opportunity to honour both our individual roots and our shared journey as an Uplands family. We encourage our pupils to take pride in their own heritage, to listen with curiosity to others' stories, and to celebrate the traditions that make each family unique.

Imagine a community where we celebrate the diverse cultures, experiences and histories that have shaped us. Our differences are a source of strength, helping to create the welcoming home that Uplands is for everyone.

"The roots of our past help us grow into the future."

COLLEGE

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A Day at Uplands College

On Tuesday, 1 September, we welcomed our Grade 6 pupils from Uplands Preparatory for a taste of life at Uplands College. They spent the day getting involved in a range of activities, from Life Sciences dissections and Science experiments to EGD, Drama, Art and Music. They also had the chance to visit our gym and High Performance Centre, spend time with our mentors and explore the College campus. It was a fun and busy day, and we loved giving our Grade 6s a glimpse of what it's like to be a College pupil.



Sports



Mpumalanga Sevens Champions

Huge congratulations go to our Uplands College U17 Sevens Team, who have been crowned the Mpumalanga U17 B Division Champions! The boys produced a fantastic unbeaten run throughout the tournament, finishing with six wins from six matches.

Pool fixtures

Won 48-7 Curro Secunda

Won 39-12 MD Coovadia

Won 19-0 Hoërskool Generaal Hertzog

Won 31-14 Hoërskool Barberton

Semifinal

Won 24-10 Penryn College

Final

Won 26-14 Hoërskool Generaal Hertzog



U19 Girls crowned champions at the Penryn Belgotex 5's!

Another fantastic weekend of hockey for Uplands College at the Penryn Belgotex 5's Hockey Tournament.

Our U19 Girls were crowned champions after a brilliant tournament, finishing it off with a 2-1 victory over Hoërskool Nelspruit Yellow in the final. Our U15 Girls also had a great weekend, winning the middle section and finishing 9th overall.

Special congratulations go to Oluhle (Lulu) Mpofu, who was outstanding in goal throughout the tournament and was deservedly named Goalkeeper of the Tournament. Congratulations to both teams and their coaches on a fantastic weekend of hockey!

Art, Creativity and Expression

Step into the world of our talented Uplands College Matric artists at the 2026 Matric Art Exhibition.

Opening: Friday, 9 October 2026 at 08:00

Venue: The Uplander

Exhibition runs: Friday, 9 October 2026 – Friday, 30 October 2026

Come and experience the creativity, imagination and artistic voices of our Matric artists:

Artists: Claire Anderson, Gia Aragon-Meco, Kirsten Auerswald, Leylah Bülter, Helen Combrink, Hayley Cope, Emma Cruickshanks, Ayda Hall, Calla Harman, Caitlin Jenkins, Jessica Knott, Arielle Mandlate, Weliswa Mdluli, Retsepile Nare, Emily Pretorius and Ruvé van Deventer.

Come see their stories come to life through art.



2026 UPLANDS COLLEGE MATRIC ART EXHIBITION



OPENING ON FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER 2026

TIME: 08:00

EXHIBITION OPEN FROM 9 OCTOBER

- 30 OCTOBER 2026

VENUE: THE UPLANDER

Artists: Claire Anderson, Gia Aragon-Meco, Kirsten Auerswald, Leylah Bülter, Helen Combrink, Hayley Cope, Emma Cruickshanks, Ayda Hall, Calla Harman, Caitlin Jenkins, Jessica Knott, Arielle Mandlate, Weliswa Mdluli, Retsepile Nare, Emily Pretorius, Ruvé van Deventer



Grade 6 Parents visit Uplands College

Following the Uplands Preparatory Grade 6 visit to Uplands College on 1 September, parents were warmly welcomed to a cocktail reception in the beautiful Chapel Quad the following evening.

Over refreshments and snacks, parents heard valuable insights from the College Head and newly appointed mentors, while engaging with staff and building connections as they prepare for their child's journey into the College.

Heritage Day



2027 Mentors

School Mentors

Siphesihle Marule, Nkazimulo Zitha, Amukelwe Ziyane, Linoson Massicane, Daniel Waring, Thubelihle Marule, Ashlee-Jade Repinga, Khwezi Ndlovu, Noah Erasmus, Indiphile Mashiteng, Shaquille Alafo, Hannah Maré, Megan de Zwart

Boarding Mentors

Nare Sebopela, Daniel Waring, Graeme Spear, Amukelwe Ziyane, Linoson Massicane, Thubelihle Marule, Siphesihle Marule, Tannur Harri-Calaca, Shaquille Alafo, Ashlee-Jade Repinga, Megan de Zwart, Wanga Matine, Kayelle Cossa, Sarona Boiteto, Tiyani Nyathi, Mia Osbourne, Keona Moyane, Malaika Alissone

Uplands hosts historic Consecration of 3rd Bishop of Mpumalanga led by Archbishop of Cape Town



On Sunday 13th September 2026, Uplands was proud to host the Consecration and Enthronement of the Bishop-Elect, Reverend Canon Wayne Samuel Saldanha, now Bishop of Mpumalanga for the Diocese of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa. This was a very special service led and undertaken by the Archbishop of Cape Town and Metropolitan of the Anglican Church of

Southern Africa - The Most Reverend Dr Thabo Cecil Makgoba.

We are delighted that we, as a proud Anglican School, were able to host our new Bishop's consecration and enthronement, and look forward to a long, fruitful partnership in the future with the new Bishop and the Mpumalanga Anglican Diocese.



Head of Uplands Outreach

Mrs Violah Moya

What if the circumstances a child is born into did not determine how far they could go? What if a school had the leadership to turn challenges into opportunities? We believe these questions matter because change begins when we are willing to imagine something better and then do the work to make it possible.

What does that look like in practice? It means showing up, listening, learning and working alongside the people who know their schools best. Through our site visits, we build relationships with teachers and school leaders, understand the challenges they face and work together to find practical ways forward. In this way, small steps can open the door to bigger possibilities.

UPLANDS OUTREACH

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Coding and Robotics

Imagine seeing an idea come to life right before your eyes. That's the magic we've been seeing during our visits to our partner schools, where teachers and learners are bringing Coding and Robotics to life, building, experimenting, problem-solving, and importantly, discovering what they can create. Despite challenges, their creativity, enthusiasm and curiosity remind us that when we give learners the opportunity to imagine, they can build possibilities.



Creating a Love of Reading



Reading from an early age helps children build vocabulary and reading skills, while nurturing a love of learning. Through our partnership with Lesaka Technologies, we are putting more books into the hands of children and bringing reading to life in our partner primary schools and ECD centres. Together, we have delivered over 2,000 storybooks and more than 100 hanging libraries, giving children greater access to stories that spark their imaginations and help them see new possibilities.



Heritage Day

Heritage Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the diverse cultures, traditions and languages that make our country so unique. We are so proud to be part of this rich and colourful tapestry. Our team came together to celebrate this day in style, embracing the different backgrounds and traditions that make each of us who we are. It's a day to appreciate our differences, celebrate what we share and recognise the beauty of our collective identity as the Rainbow nation.



Uplands Outreach Champion



Our work depends on the kindness and generosity of donors, supporters and friends. New champions are always needed for our programmes - please contact Violah Moya, Head of Uplands Outreach, if you are in a position to donate your time, talents and treasures. You can make an impact today!



Celebrating Long Service Awards!

In August we joyfully celebrated Violah Moya's 15th anniversary with Uplands Outreach! Pictured with Katia van der Merwe, Mama V proudly accepted her Long Service certificate from Uplands, saying that she was delighted to have travelled this journey with her colleagues. Congratulations, Mama V!





**Chair of Uplands
Parent Teacher Association**

Mrs Sanele Thothela

This Heritage Month, we celebrate the many cultures, traditions, and stories that make our Uplands community so special. Imagine what we can continue to build when we bring our different experiences together with a shared sense of belonging.

As the Uplands PTA, we are grateful for every family that contributes, participates, and helps to make Uplands a community where everyone has a place.



**Chair of Uplands
Past Pupils Association**

**Mr Malcolm Deacon
(Class of 2000)**

Imagine a community that continues to bring people together, long after their school days have ended. This term, we have seen that come to life through cricket, golf, padel, shared meals and plenty of catching up. UPPA is about keeping those connections alive and celebrating the friendships, memories and sense of belonging that make the Uplands community so special. Thank you to everyone that has supported UPPA this past term. Your involvement keeps these connections strong and our community thriving.

UPLANDS FOUNDATION, UPPA, PTA

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A Special Evening at Uplands

On Tuesday, 4 August, the Uplands Foundation hosted a wonderful cocktail evening for Sean Carlisle, our Executive Head, welcoming a small group of Uplands Founders & Friends. It was lovely to see old friends reconnect, put faces to familiar names and hear why Uplands holds such a special place in their hearts. Thank you to everyone who made the evening memorable.



Uplands Past Pupils Association (UPPA)



This term, our UPPA Cricket Day, Golf Day and Ladies' Padel & Lunch brought Old Uplanders and the wider Uplands community together in true Uplands spirit. With the incredible support of our sponsors, these events gave Old Uplanders an opportunity to reconnect, celebrate their heritage and enjoy the camaraderie that continues long after their school days end.



Matric Indigenous Forest Tree Planting Ceremony

The Class of 2026 continued a special Uplands tradition by planting Natal Mahogany trees in the centre of the Pump Track. With teamwork and plenty of enthusiasm, the Matrics added to the growing Indigenous Forest and left a lasting legacy on campus. These beautiful indigenous trees will provide welcome shade for future generations while supporting Uplands' vision for a greener, more sustainable campus.



Uplands Foundation



**Head of Uplands
Foundation**

Mrs Sally Greathead

Imagine is the theme of this term's newsletter and it is a theme that speaks to the work we do and the opportunities we have to make a difference across the Uplands community.

The Uplands Foundation is about looking at what is possible and turning those ideas into action. Whether supporting our pupils, enhancing our campus or creating opportunities for our community to connect, our focus remains on contributing to an Uplands experience that is purposeful and lasting.

This term, we are pleased to share two initiatives that reflect this work. Both remind us that the things we do today can have a lasting impact on the Uplands community for years to come.

Venue: Uplands, White River,
Mpumalanga, South Africa
Time: 09:00 - 16:00

Join us for a unique Christmas
Shopping Experience

For more information contact 082 8000 618
uplandschristmasmarket@gmail.com



MORE THAN BOARDING...IT'S A WAY OF LIFE!

UPLANDS NEWSLETTER - TERM 3 (2026)



There's something special about coming home to a space that feels calm, comfortable and welcoming. Our recently upgraded Uplands Preparatory Boarding Houses have been thoughtfully refreshed with soft, neutral colours, spacious dormitories, cosy sleep zones and charming décor to create a true home away from home for our boarders from Grade 4 to Grade 7.

Designed to inspire a sense of belonging, comfort and independence, these beautiful spaces provide the perfect environment for our pupils to rest, learn, grow and build lifelong friendships. At Uplands, boarding is more than accommodation - it's a place where children feel at home.

For more information about boarding at Uplands for your child, please contact our Uplands Admissions Department at admissions@uplands.co.za.

