



# HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



# WELCOME BACK!

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome to all our new learners, parents and teachers and to the returning learners, parents and teachers. May 2025 be a year filled with joy and success.

Majority of the learners will be on camp from today and returning on Friday 17 January, they are in good hands with Mr Sutherland, Mr Mshipa and Mrs Hildebrand and the facilitators of Buffelspoort. They will be learning invaluable skills such as teamwork and leadership over these three days. We look forward to seeing what they got up to in the next newsletter.

A very warm welcome to our new staff members to the Orion Family:

High school: Dureya Green (covering for Povendree Pillay)

Mawande Tyhulu

Therapy Department and Admin: Jess de Castro

Adele Cruywagen and Saffyre Smith (Admin)

## PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

The information evening will be held on **Monday 20 January at 18h00** in the school hall. This is your chance to meet the teachers who will be teaching your child/ren this year and to obtain important information about academics, behaviour and structure within the high school.

## Absenteeism

If learners are absent or late, please inform the office so teachers can be informed.

During the year, if learners are absent during formal assessments a valid doctor's letter needs to be submitted.

## *2025's Theme:*

# **Be the change!!!**

# Congratulations Class of 2024!

To all the grade 12 learners' of 2024 congratulations on your results! Your hard work and dedication has paid off. Orion college is proud of all of you and what you have achieved.



## Extra-murals

Please encourage your child to get involved in sport and culture programs. Extra murals will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons being either practise or a fixture.

The fixture list for the small schools' leagues will be published as soon as it is finalised.

The extra murals for this term are:

Swimming and Chess

## Up-coming Events

### January

High school camp 15<sup>TH</sup> – 17<sup>TH</sup>

Parent Information Evening 20<sup>TH</sup> 18h00

### February

Valentines Civvies Day (R20) 14<sup>TH</sup>

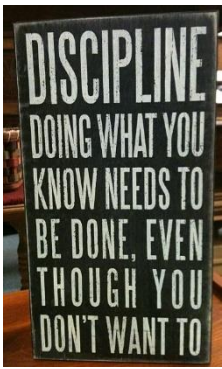
Valentines Dances (After school) 14<sup>TH</sup>

### March

IP CAMP 12<sup>TH</sup> - 14<sup>TH</sup>

Inter school gala 14<sup>TH</sup>

**Lockers:** can be rented for the year at R800 for the year or R200 per term. Learners must please supply their own locks with two keys. Please enquire with Mrs Tunley.



## DEMERITS and DETENTION:

Will be issued to learners who do not take responsibility for academics and whose behaviour is not in line with the Orion College Code of Conduct.

Parents and the learner will be informed in writing when DETENTION will take place.

## Academic News:

Will be shared at the information evening on Monday 20 January 2025

## CELL PHONES

The use of cell phones is permitted, but under the following conditions:

- Learners are solely responsible for the safekeeping of their phones.
- Learners must use the phones responsibly – cyberbullying will not be tolerated.
- Learners must hand in their phones at the beginning of the lesson, the phones will be handed back at the end of the lessons.
- Learners will only be allowed to use their phones if the staff member gives them permission to do so.

If you are concerned about your learner's cell phone usage at night when they need to sleep, you can download the following app "Family Link" from play store.



## Uber eats

Learners ARE **NOT ALLOWED** to order Uber eats.

**Please support the tuckshop if lunch is needed.**

## SUPPORT LESSONS

The timetable for support lessons will go out to the parents; please make sure your child attends these lessons.

Kind regards,

Mrs. M. Tunley

Deputy Principal of the High School

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT REMINDER:

- Payments must be made **MONTHLY, in advance, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each month.**
- Please quote the **FAMILY CODE** and **SURNAME** when making payments as indicated on the statement. **LATE PAYMENTS:**


Please note that should a parent fail to comply with the regulations regarding the payment of tuition fees, the school will implement the following procedure:

- **One month** in arrears – notice of outstanding amount will be sent out.
- **Two months** in arrears – child will be suspended.
  - **Three months** in arrears – contract will be terminated, account handed over for collection

# 2025 TERM DATES, SCHOOL TIMES and HOLIDAYS

MONTH	THEME	IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES
<b>Term 1</b>		
January		Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan: Term 1 starts
February		
March		Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March: Term 1 ends
<b>Term 2</b>		
April		Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April: Term 2 starts Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> April (Good Friday – no school) Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> April (Easter Monday – no school) Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> April (Freedom Day observed – no school) Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> and Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> April (Special school holidays)
May		Thu 1 <sup>st</sup> May: Worker's Day (no school) Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> May: (Special School holiday)
June		Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> June: (Youth Day – no school) 27 <sup>th</sup> June: Term 2 ends
<b>Term 3</b>		
July		21 <sup>st</sup> July: Term 3 starts
August		
September		Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> September: Heritage Day (no school) Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> September: Term ends
<b>Term 4</b>		
October		Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> October: Term 4 starts
November		Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> November: Term ends for Primary School
December		Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> December: Office closes

## SCHOOL TIMES for 2025

GRADE	START OF DAY	END OF DAY		
		Monday, Tuesday, Thursday	Wednesday	Friday
Grade 8 - 12	07h30	School ends: 14h15	13h45	13h00
Extra Murals	Tuesday and Wednesday:			15h30
Extra Lessons	Monday and Thursday:			15h30
Grade 8 to 12 will have compulsory, weekly extra lessons throughout the year, with some weekend/holiday classes. Grade 12's will also have scheduled weekend and holiday extra lessons throughout the year.				

Please be in class by **07h25**. Lessons start at **07h30**.

**Latecomers** must report to the school office to get a **Late Slip**.



# TERM 1 CALENDAR 2025

Break up days and start of term   Public Holidays   Other Days of interest/ importance   School events, civvies and activity days

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Month							
JAN			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13 Staff return	14	15 Start of Term 1 for Learners HS CAMP	16 HS CAMP	17 HS CAMP	18	19
	20 HS Information Evening	21 PS Information Evening	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
FEB	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day Valentine's Day Civvies (R20) and Dance	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28 Interhouse Gala	1 Start of Autumn Ramadan start (tbc)	2 Wildlife Day
MARCH	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12 IP CAMP	13 IP CAMP	14 IP CAMP	15	16
	17	18	19 Funky Hair /Hat Day (R20)	20 Break-up day Autumn Equinox	21 Human Right's Day	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

# TERM 2 CALENDAR

Month	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
APR	31 Family Day Eid ul Fitr	1	2 Autism Awareness Day	3	4	5	6
	7 Start of Term 2	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17 Easter Activities	18 Good Friday	19 Holy Saturday	20 Easter Sunday
	21 Family Day	22 Earth Day	23 World Book Day	24 Restaurant Evening	25 World Arbor Day World Book character dress up day (R20)	26	27 Freedom Day
	28 Freedom Day observed	29 Special School Holiday	30 Special School Holiday	1 Worker's Day	2 Special School Holiday	3	4 World Laughter Day
MAY	5	6	7	8	9 Mother's Day assembly PS	10	11 Mother's Day
	12 Mother's Day assembly HS	13	14	15	16 Golf Day Civvies (R20)	17 Endangered Species Day	18
	19	20 World Bee Day	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30 Slipper Day	31	1 Beginning of Winter
JUN	2	3	4	5 World Environment Day	6	7 Eid al-Adha (tbc)	8 World Oceans Day
	9	10	11	12	13 Father 's Day activity PS only	14 World Blood Donor Day	15 Father's Day
	16 Youth Day	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26 Civvies Day for Youth Day (R20)	27 Break-up day	28	29

# TERM 3 CALENDAR

Month	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
JUL	30	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18 Mandela Day	19	20
	21 Start of Term 3	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30 International Friendship Day	31	1	2	3
AUG	4	5 IP Cycle tests start	6	7 Pajama Day	8 Women's Day	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25 Concert dress rehearsal	26 Concert matinee	27 Concert Evening show	28	29 Concert Evening show	30	31
SEP	1	2	3 Secretaries Day	4	5	6	7
	8 World Literacy Day	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21 World Gratitude Day/ International Day of Peace
	22 Spring Equinox	23 Interhouse Athletics	24 Heritage Day	25 Heritage Day Dress up (R20)	26 Break up day World Literacy Day Activity PS only Matric Farewell TBC	27	28





# TERM 4 CALENDAR

Month	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
OCT	29	30	1	2	3	4 World Animal Day	5 Teacher's Day
	6	7	8 Dyslexia Awareness Day	9	10	11	12
	13 Start of Term 4 for PS	14	15 School Photos	16 Boss's Day	17 Dress as your Teacher (R20)	18	19
	20 Diwali	21	22 Grade 7 visit to HS	23	24	25 Summer Festival	26
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
NOV	3	4	5	6 Grade 7 Farewell Trip	8	9	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27 Carols by Candlelight 6pm	28 PS Prize Giving Last Day for PS learners	29	30
DEC	1 HS Prize Giving Beginning of Summer	2 Last Day for HS learners	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11 Office closes for 2025	12	13	14
	15	16 Day of Reconciliation	17	18	19	20	21 Summer Solstice
	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Day of Goodwill/ Boxing Day	27	28
	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 Jan 2026 New Year's Day	2 Jan	3 Jan	4 Jan



# UNIFORM CODE

	<b>Summer</b> 	<b>Winter</b> 
<b>Girls Uniform</b> Monday Wednesday Thursday	White Orion short sleeve shirt. Navy skort. White socks, black school shoes. Orion cap or hat. Sleeveless Orion jersey (optional).	White long sleeve shirt (no logo). Navy skort with navy tights or grey trousers. White socks, black school shoes. Orion jersey (new white jersey from Term 2) and Orion school jacket. Navy gloves, scarf and beanie (optional).
<b>Boys Uniform</b> Monday Wednesday Thursday	White Orion short sleeve shirt. Grey shorts. Grey striped Orion socks, black school shoes. Orion cap or hat. Sleeveless Orion jersey (optional).	White long sleeve shirt (no logo). Long grey trousers. Grey striped Orion socks, black school shoes. Orion Jersey (new white jersey from Term 2) and Orion School Jacket. Navy gloves, scarf and beanie (optional).
<b>PE Kit</b> Tuesday	White Orion golf shirt, navy quantec shorts. White socks, plain black or white takkies (no colours).	Orion tracksuit, white Orion golf shirt. White socks, plain black or white takkies (no colours).
<b>Blazer and Tie</b>	<b>Orion blazer</b> worn all year and <b>tie to be worn in winter</b> . Long grey trousers can be worn all year (optional).	
<b>Casual Fridays</b>	Navy or white Orion golf shirt with plain blue jeans (not faded or torn). White socks with plain black or white takkies or black school shoes.	

**NO HOODIES OR NON-UNIFORM ITEMS WILL BE ALLOWED.**



