



Collegiate Girls' High School

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END OF TERM NEWSLETTER – 26 JUNE 2026



Dear Collegiate Community

As we reach the end of the second term, it is impossible to reflect on the past few months without thinking of the weather that shaped so much of our experience. Twice during the term, severe storms forced the closure of our school. Strong winds, heavy rain and flooding disrupted carefully laid plans, interrupted teaching time and led to the cancellation of events that many had anticipated for months.

Among the greatest disappointments was the cancellation of our Founders' Day celebrations. For Collegiate girls, past and present, Founders' Day is more than a date on the calendar. It is an opportunity to honour our history, celebrate our traditions and reconnect with one another. The assembly, flag-raising ceremony, reunions and sporting fixtures could not proceed as planned, and many felt the loss keenly.

Yet storms have a way of reminding us what truly matters. They remind us that while plans may change, purpose remains. The Founders' Day events were cancelled, but the spirit behind them was not. Old Girls still reached out to one another, shared memories and renewed connections. The bonds of friendship and belonging that Collegiate nurtures do not depend on a particular event taking place on a particular day. They endure across years, decades and even generations.

The disruptions also reminded us of the importance of resilience. While valuable classroom time was lost, our learners adapted. Revision continued from home and many girls demonstrated the self-discipline and responsibility needed to keep learning despite changed circumstances. In doing so, they displayed qualities that will serve them well long after any examination has been written.

Most importantly, the storms reminded us of our interconnectedness. Across our city, families experienced flooding, damage to homes and significant hardship. Within our own community, we saw people checking on one another, offering practical assistance and showing care and concern. Difficult circumstances often reveal the strength of a community more clearly than easy ones ever can.

There is a well-known saying that we cannot control the wind, but we can adjust our sails. This term required many adjustments. Plans changed. Events were postponed or cancelled. Examinations had to be revised. Yet through it all, the values that define Collegiate remained constant.

As the winter holidays begin, the storms have passed and the sunshine has returned. The campus is quieter now, but the lessons of the term remain. We are reminded that resilience is built in adversity, that relationships matter more than schedules, and that a strong community is measured not by the absence of challenges but by the way it responds to them.

Perhaps most significantly, this term gave practical expression to our theme for 2026: *Leading with values through belonging and contribution*. In the midst of uncertainty, we were reminded of the importance of belonging – of being part of a community where people

are seen, known and valued. We were equally reminded of the importance of contribution, as learners, staff, parents and Old Girls stepped forward in both large and small ways to support one another. When circumstances were less than ideal, people chose to help, encourage, adapt and persevere. In doing so, they demonstrated that leadership is not reserved for positions or titles; it is found in the daily choices we make to strengthen the communities to which we belong.

Thank you to our learners, staff, parents and Old Girls for the adaptability, patience and support shown throughout an unusual and challenging term. May the holiday provide an opportunity for rest, renewal and time with those who matter most.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back next term, refreshed and ready for the opportunities that lie ahead.

Facta Non Verba

Warm regards



MRS L ERASMUS
PRINCIPAL

FAREWELL

It is with gratitude that we bid farewell to a beloved staff member, Mrs Beverly Douglass, a cherished member of the Collegiate family. Mrs Douglass' journey with us began over 25 years ago—initially teaching at Collegiate Girls' High School for 10 years before taking a brief hiatus to welcome her son into the world. True to the spirit of Collegiate, she returned to our corridors, serving as a part-time teacher for the past 15 years.

Throughout her time with us, Mrs Douglass has been a compassionate and dedicated presence in the EMS and isiXhosa classrooms. Her bright smile, positive attitude, and unwavering perseverance has left a lasting impression on both colleagues and learners alike. Beyond the lessons in the classroom, she has imparted invaluable lessons of kindness, resilience and life.

We celebrate her contributions and bid her farewell as she begins a new chapter - spending quality time with her family and prioritizing her health. We cannot thank her enough for her years of service, her spirit, and her unwavering commitment to our school.



SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

We thank our SGB office bearers for their service to the school:

Back Row: Miss O Freercks, Miss M Wessels, Miss M Caliste, A Ismail

Third Row: Mrs A Nel, Miss X Mkhonza, Mrs Q Hill-Salie, Mrs S Gerber

Second Row: Mrs K Humby, Mrs S Mao-Cheia, Mr G Lotz, Miss J van Rooyen, Mrs B Brooks

Front Row: Mr F Fourie, Mrs L Erasmus, Adv E Loyson, Mr R Searle, Mrs S Marriner

Absent from the photograph: Mrs C Hutchinson, Mr Z Zulu



A NEW MUSIC CENTRE FOR COLLEGIATE

We are pleased to share that Collegiate is moving forward with the development of a new Music Centre – a purpose-built facility that will provide dedicated spaces for music education, rehearsal, and intimate performances.

This project represents an important investment in the cultural life of the school and in the experience of

generations of learners to come. It is also an opportunity for the wider Collegiate community – past, present, and future – to be part of creating something enduring.

A brochure outlining the vision for the Music Centre, together with opportunities to contribute, has been shared with parents, alumnae, and friends of the school. We invite members of our community to consider how they may wish to be involved in bringing this shared vision to life.



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LATE COMERS

At our school, we believe that education extends beyond the classroom, it is rooted in the values we instill in our girls. Traits such as a strong work ethic, respect, integrity, responsibility, and compassion are woven into their daily actions and interactions.

A key aspect of respect is punctuality. Arriving on time for the start of the school day and the register period is a fundamental sign of valuing others' time and adhering to institutional rules. Recently, we have observed an increase in late arrivals, which is concerning. While we understand that unforeseen circumstances can occasionally cause delays, we cannot allow this to become a regular pattern.

To address this, we are implementing a new system: if your daughter arrives late, you will receive a notification via our discipline system. If there was a specific reason for her lateness, we kindly ask that you send an email or accompany her to reception to explain the delay. After three instances of late arrival, your daughter will be placed on Friday detention as part of our efforts to encourage punctuality and responsibility.

Our goal is to foster habits that reflect respect for others' time and adherence to school policies - lessons that will serve them well beyond school. We appreciate your support in working together to uphold these values and to help every girl develop into a respectful and responsible individual.

PARENT REPORT DISCUSSION

After the examinations, we recommend that parents and learners review the progress and areas for development, and celebrate achievements. Please review your daughter's report with her and discuss her progress.

If there are areas of concern in certain subjects, we encourage you to discuss these concerns with the particular subject teacher. There is an opportunity to do so, in person, on the evening of **Wednesday, 22 July between 16:30 and 18:30.**

Please book a slot via this link:

<https://www.collegiatehigh.co.za/teacher-booking>

Note the following:

- You need to book a time slot with the teacher (s) you wish to see.
- Consultations are limited to five minutes with five minutes between slots.
- You will need to know the name(s)

of your daughter's teacher(s) of the particular subject(s).

- As time-slots are limited, you might not be able to see a particular teacher if all slots have already been booked. You are then encouraged to contact the teacher via email to set up a meeting or telephone call during the week.
- We will not be able to accommodate you on the evening without a pre-booking.
- Only available time slots for that teacher will show. If no time slots are visible, it means that that teacher is fully booked.
- You will receive a confirmation email at the email address you specified with all the details of your booking.
- Please note that it is not possible to make a booking **after 10:00 on the morning of Wednesday, 22 July.**

This evening is a wonderful opportunity for parents and teachers to engage regarding interventions and progress.



SPEECH AND ELOCUTION COMPETITION

This year the Speech and Elocution competition was held on 20 May. This was a particularly special competition this year as Mrs Natalie Stear, former Deputy Principal, visited us as the adjudicator. Her love for literature and performance led to the Junior Award being named after her. It was wonderful to have her as she shared valuable knowledge with the girls on how to improve and perform with eloquence.

Her expertise was greatly appreciated as she is as sharp as a whip at 90 years old.

There were seven competitors, two juniors and five seniors. The Natalie Stear Trophy was awarded to Izzy Casali. She showed true heart, and dedicated preparation, that showed in her performance, as well as a honest love and care for poetry and drama. Our



Senior winner of the Charles Kayser Trophy was Sophie Brannigan, a phenomenal actress and speaker. Her words lasted long after her performance sharing her expertise in drama and her understanding of poetry. Well done to all the competitors. It takes courage to perform and our girls gave nothing but their best.

UCT MATHS COMPETITION

Thirty-five of our learners took part in the UCT Mathematics Competition held at Alexander Road High in April. A number of the learners were placed in the competition. In the individual category, Clarise Pieterse (Grade Twelve) was placed 1st, Elizabeth de Kock (Grade

Eleven) placed 3rd, Holly Tudhope (Grade Ten) placed 1st and Abbygail de Lange (Grade Nine) placed 1st and Harshita Kaswa (Grade Eight) placed 3rd. In the pairs category, Lilitha Papu and Philippa Stevens (Grade Twelve) were placed 2nd and Kaitlyn Richter and Megan Woolward (Grade Nine) placed 3rd.

ADMATHS ACHIEVERS

We congratulated the following learners this term on their achievement in AdMaths for the end of 2025. Each

year AdMaths gives out certificates to learners for their hard work and achievement of 90%+. The top achievers for 2025 at Collegiate are Clarise Pieterse, Cailin Louw, Olivia Freercks, Katherine Wilson and Holly Tudhope.

MATHEMATICAL LITERACY EXCELLENCE

We are proud to announce that our Mathematical Literacy Department has achieved remarkable national recognition, securing 5th place, nationally, among schools based on the National Senior Certificate 2025 results. This prestigious accolade reflects the relentless pursuit of excellence by our dedicated team, led by the Subject Head, Miss Neeta Muthayan. We wish to congratulate the department for their outstanding commitment to mathematical mastery and learner success.



LITERARY FESTIVAL

We celebrated our annual Literary Festival with a theme of preserving our world through the power of words, heritage and nature. Literary Week commenced with a speech from Melissa Riordan, who fittingly spoke about her love of nature and literature. The audience was appreciative of her delightful sense of humour and entertaining stories, which left people feeling refreshed and keen to immerse themselves in the beauty of nature.

A group of Grade Tens read to our junior sisters in Grade One at the Junior School. This has become a special yearly tradition and moment of connection with our 'little sisters' across the field through the reading of stories. Interact visited EP Children's Home to read and donate books.

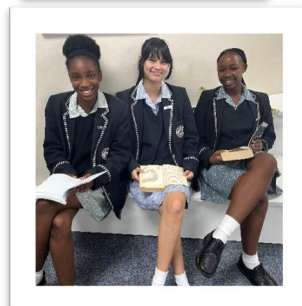
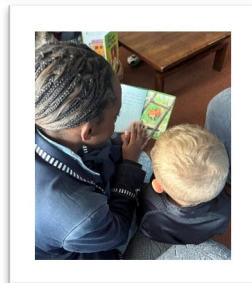
The Literary and Photography Societies enjoyed a visit to the Main Library situated in the North-Western Corner of Market Square. The library was officially opened in 1902, and is a fascinating building that is intriguing from a historical, literary and aesthetic perspective. In recent years, the library has been closed, but is now open for the public to visit. The learners enjoyed walking up and down the spiral staircases, while admiring the stained-glass windows and paging through interesting books. We thank Carol Victor, the librarian, for addressing the learners on the history of the library.

There were book exhibitions and a creative writing workshop. In light of the annual Collegiate Creative Writing Competition, a creative writing workshop took place during Collegiate's Literary Week. The focus was on a short story and personal essay-writing workshop, which centred on the theme, ['Part of the Forest: Human Connections to the Natural World'](#) led by Nia Van Niekerk, who is an English literature master's student and tutor in the English Literature Department at Rhodes. The participants appreciated Nia's calming and inspiring presence, as the budding writers expressed their thoughtful and creative insights.

Our Drama Girls held a word festival picnic in the quad. We had the Old Pot-New Pot book character dress up. The school was a haven of peace and escapism as we all read for two hours in the annual Readathon.

To consolidate a week of celebrating heritage and nature through the power of words, members of the Literary Society enjoyed sharing their personal writing responses based on the visit to the Main Library and the beauty of the Collegiate front garden.

These sponsors donated prizes for Readathon and Book Character Day prizes: Cold Storage Group (Supa Value Foods) Kariega, Fogarty's Bookshop, Baywest Mall, Two Pairs Deli and Karen Mc Kerr of Go Brand Marketing.





Lilian Krige

We are proud to announce that several of our learners were selected to appear in *The Herald* Youth Day Supplement Publication. This prestigious publication includes various categories:

In Art, Jordyn Kapp (Grade Eleven), Shiloh van Eeden (Grade Twelve), Kristen Botha (Grade Twelve), Emily Handley (Grade Twelve), and Hannah Andrews (Grade Twelve) showcased their talent.

In Poetry, Madison Everts (Grade Twelve) and Thashanti Harts (Grade Twelve) earned well-deserved recognition.

Additionally, the following learners achieved success in the competition:

Emily Ball (Grade Twelve) and Rania Yon (Grade Eleven) received prizes for their poetry.

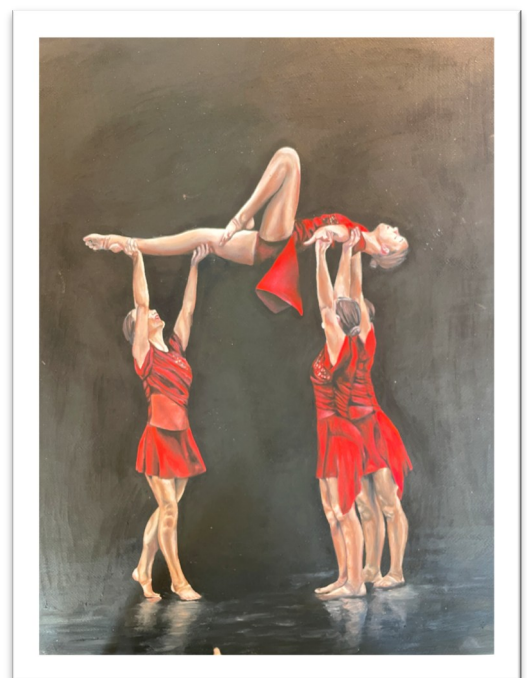
Emma Jack (Grade Twelve) and Anika Ferreira (Grade Eleven) were awarded First Runner Up in Art.

Congratulations to Elizabeth de Kock (Grade Eleven), the Poetry winner, and Lilian Krige (Grade Twelve), the Art winner!

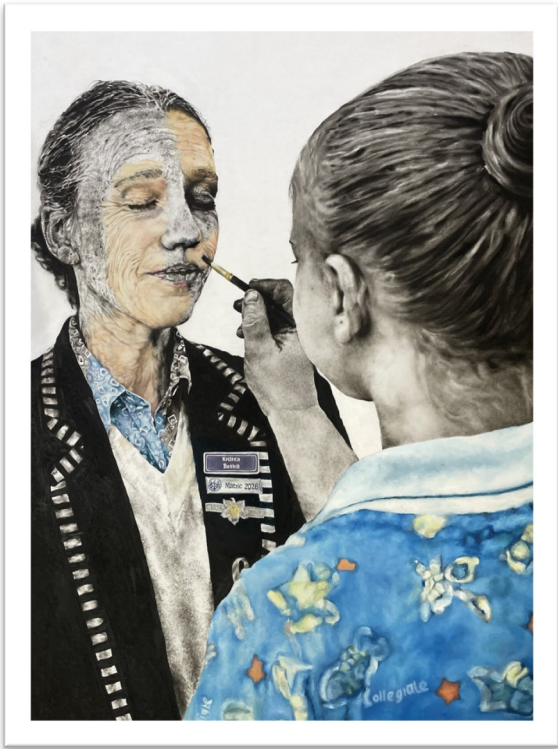
We would like to congratulate our girls on their outstanding achievements in *The Herald* Youth Day Supplement Publication.



Anika Ferreira



Emma Jack



Kristen Botha



Hannah Andrews



Emily Handly



Jordyn Kapp



Shiloh van Eeden

CO-CURRICULAR NEWS

As we conclude this dynamic and inspiring term, we take pride in celebrating the exceptional achievements of our learners across all co-curricular domains. Their dedication, talent, and spirit continue to exemplify the core values of Collegiate Girls' High School.

CULTURE



Our C-of-Saxes ensemble has had an exciting and active term, seizing every opportunity to showcase their talent. On Sunday, 12 April, they had the honour of representing Collegiate at the inaugural Gqeberha CCNF Prestige Concert Series at Feather Market Hall. This historic event brought together school, university, and

community ensembles from Gqeberha and East London and was a resounding success. Our ensemble was praised for their polished performance, demonstrating exceptional detail and precision that made us all proud.

Later in the term, C-of-Saxes performed at the Into the Mix competition at Curro Westbrook, reaching the finals with a vibrant rendition of "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy." Their high standards are a testament to their dedication, team spirit, and unwavering commitment.

The biennial Knock-on-Wood Festival at Woodridge College from 11-14 May provided further valuable performance opportunities. Out of 65 performances, our learners earned 12 Bronze, 24 Silver, 17 Gold, and 12 Double Gold certificates. Special congratulations go to category winners: Asemahle Nomnganga (Woodwind), Avethandwa Mehlo (Brass), and our Choir, who all received medals.

Our Choir has achieved significant milestones this term. On 16 May, they performed at the CCNF Choir Festival at Feather Market Centre, sharing the stage with many talented groups from Nelson Mandela Metro and East London. They further demonstrated their excellence at the ATKV Applous regional festival on 19 May, earning a Gold certificate and an invitation to compete at the National Final in Cape Town on 31 July. We wish them every success in this exciting opportunity.



On 15-17 May at the SASMT Into-the-Mix Competition at Curro Westbrook our vocal ensemble excelled, advancing to the final round. Notably, Aisha Mxokozeli and Katherine Wilson (Vocal Duet) secured first place overall, with Jenna Eaton, Minenhle Maisela, and Katherine Wilson also placing in the top three in their categories. Their outstanding performances highlight the depth of talent within our school.

Our Ballroom Dancing Society had a stellar start, participating in the Dare2Dance Interschool Competition. Vandyie Makolo earned 3rd place in Beginner Ballroom and 2nd in Beginner Latin; Luné Kritzinger achieved 2nd in Bronze Latin; and Elizabeth de Kock secured 1st in Bronze Ballroom. Congratulations on this proud achievement.

On Sunday, 21 June, the ECPO celebrated Youth Month with a spectacular Youth Concerto Festival for gifted young soloists at the Feather Market Centre. Asemahle Nomnganga's performance on the saxophone was captivating and exquisitely beautiful and Olivia Freercks wowed the audience with her technical skills on the clarinet. What an incredible opportunity it has been for both girls to perform with the orchestra.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our parents, staff, and learners for their unwavering dedication—from early morning rehearsals to concerts and performances. We look forward to an exciting remainder of the year. Term Three and Four promise to bring many more memorable moments as we celebrate our vibrant cultural calendar together.



SPORT

Our sporting achievements this term reflect dedication and excellence.

In Chess, our young team competed at the All Girls' Festival in Stellenbosch over three days, demonstrating resilience, team spirit, and grace. While they did not place, the experience gained was invaluable, and their focus and camaraderie were commendable. We look forward to continued growth in our upcoming Interhouse matches.



Our Netball teams have enjoyed a vibrant season, with two players selected for the Eastern Cape Schools teams— Iminathi Nonganga (U16) and Likhanye Jam Jam (U17)— and Lilian Krige earning her 100th cap for the 1st team. The U14 team won bronze at the DSG Tournament. The overall spirit and sportsmanship displayed during derby fixtures against Brandwag, Rhenish, Woodridge, Kingswood, Nico Malan, and DSG were exemplary. We look forward to hosting the Annual 1st Team Netball Festival from 16-18 July.



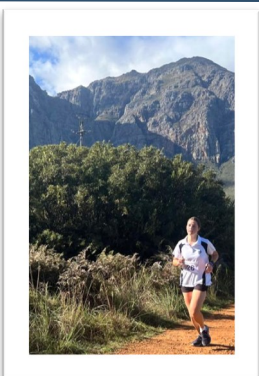
In Hockey, our teams participated in several festivals. The 2nd team retained their title at the Framesby Festival, with Nolitha Makasana named Player of the Tournament. The 1st team competed at the St Mary's Festival earning the accolade of the most improved team. At the National All Girls' Festival, the team continued to impress by finishing 3rd overall, with Kerrin Gillies as Top Goal Scorer. Our 16A team finished 6th at the Bloemhof Festival, while the 14A girls showcased resilience at the DSG Hockey Festival in Makhanda. The second edition of the Girls' Challenge tournament in Cape Town saw our team perform admirably, with the 1st team narrowly losing

in the final to Waterkloof, earning silver medals.

Our teams also participated in derbies against Outeniqua, Kingswood, DSG, Makhanda schools, and others, with most results favourable. We extend congratulations to the numerous players who have attained 100 caps for the 1st team, including Taryn Peltenberg, Kerrin Gillies, Jenna Coetzee, Jana Prinsloo, Jade Grobler, and Kate Brennan. Many of our players have also been selected for the EP teams, and we wish them success at upcoming IPT events. A healthy contingent of Collegiate girls has been selected to EP teams. Our heartfelt congratulations to the following ladies : **EP14A:** Isabella Tait, Emily Woods and Imyoli Liwani, **EP14B:** Erin Chree and Mia Killian, **EP16A:** Gaby de Doncker, Sophia Jansen, Linathi Bidli and Josie van Heerden, **EP16B:** Lauren Duckworth, **EP18A:** Kerrin Gillies, Taryn Peltenberg, Jana Prinsloo, Eden Oliver, Ayanda Klaas, Kate Brennan, Emihle Mazomba and Salome Oosthuizen, **EP18B:** Jade Grobler, Jenna Coetzee, Nolitha Makasana, Lusanele Ntsepe, **EP18 non-traveling reserve:** Casey Grobler. We wish all the above ladies luck at the upcoming IPT events.

In Cross Country, our athletes competed in five inter-school races at DF Malherbe, Grey High, Pearson, and Andrew Rabie. Olivia Freercks secured notable results, including 2nd at DF Malherbe and 1st at Pearson, while Jenna Coetzee finished 4th and 3rd respectively. Several athletes qualified to represent the Metro at EP Schools in East London, though some were unable to attend due to other commitments.

Our E-Sports team has enjoyed a successful and exciting term. They defended their title at the All Girls' Festival, becoming champions for the second consecutive year, competing in Tekken, FIFA, Brawlhalla, and Rocket League. Team captain Vandyie Ntumba Makolo's leadership has been instrumental in fostering a supportive, competitive environment. The team also participated in the Africa Schools Gaming League in Fortnite, gaining valuable experience despite not qualifying for the Premier League.



Our tennis programme experienced a quieter term, with many players transitioning to winter sports. Nonetheless, the team participated in the All Girls' Festival in Stellenbosch, finishing 11th despite challenging weather conditions. Our inter-house tennis matches were exciting doubles contests. We look forward to our annual derby against Oranje Meisies Skool in Bloemfontein.



outstanding 6th finish at the South African Open is a highlight, and she has been selected for EP. Other EP selections include Chloé Loyson (U15A), Lily Mao-Cheia (U15B), Ella Grobler (Reserve), and Nuha Packery (U17A). Our 1st Team Captain, Madison Everts, celebrated her 50th cap—an impressive milestone demonstrating her leadership and dedication.

Squash continues to thrive, with our team finishing 3rd at the All Girls' Festival. Faatima Packery's

In April, Aneesah Lindoor and Kim Dell-Robertson represented Eastern Cape Aquatics at the South African National Championships, with Aneesah placing fourth in Tech Solo and third in Free Solo, and both earning medals in team events. Aneesah's selection to the South African Junior Team for the World Championships in Hungary is a proud achievement.



Swimmer Sienna Gous continues to impress, qualifying for the African Aquatics Championships in Mauritius, where she placed 4th in Africa. Jemmah Roman secured gold at the African Swimming Championships in Algeria, while April Jooman's versatility is on full display as she competes across pools, sprints, and endurance events, with her selection for the SA National Open Water Championships marking her as a rising star.

As we head into the winter holidays, we encourage all our sportswomen to remain active and continue their preparation for an exciting Term Three.

Highlights include:

- Framesby Fixtures – 25 July
- Oranje/Eunice Derby Tour in Bloemfontein (31 July – 1 August)
- Super 12 Hockey Tournament (6 – 10 August)
- Rising Stars Hockey u16 Challenge (6-10 August)
- Clarendon Derby (14—15 August)

Thank you to our coaches, managers, parents, and supporters for their continued commitment and encouragement throughout the term. We are

incredibly proud of all our sportswomen and the way they continue to represent Collegiate with excellence, determination, and pride.

Sportivo: Should any parent or Collegiate community member have difficulty with their *Sportivo* app, you can contact *Sportivo* on 076 922 92 33 for immediate assistance.



OUTREACH INITIATIVES

Our community outreach continues to embody the spirit of compassion. Partnerships with Project Flamingo at Livingstone Hospital's Oncology Unit have fostered meaningful connections. The 67 Blankets Challenge for Mandela Day saw generous knitted donations, which will be distributed to those in need on 18 July. Our learner committees organized engaging activities at EP Children' Mosaic Community

Developments, sharing kindness and talents through sports and arts.

Looking ahead, we will launch our Winter Woollie Drive and host our annual Charity Bazaar on 24 July, with proceeds supporting Project Flamingo. We invite the entire Collegiate community and the public to join us for an afternoon of joyful giving, entertainment, and community spirit.



The poster features a vibrant orange background with a grid pattern. At the top left is the school's crest, a circular emblem with the motto 'FACTA NON VERBA' and 'FOUNDED 1874'. To its right, the school's name 'Collegiate Girls' High School' is written in a cursive font. The main title 'CHARITY BAZAAR' is in large, stylized, pink and white letters. Below the title, a globe with a grid pattern is shown. To the right of the globe, the event details are listed: 'FASHION FLASHBACK' in a teal box, '24th JULY 2026' in a black box, and '14:00 - 17:00' in a black box. Below these, the text 'JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD STALLS, AND TEA & CAKE GARDEN.' is written in bold. At the bottom left, there is an illustration of a hand making a peace sign, wearing a flower bracelet. At the bottom right, there is a logo for 'PROJECT FLAMINGO' featuring a pink flamingo. The bottom of the poster has a wavy, rainbow-colored border.

Collegiate Girls' High School

CHARITY BAZAAR

FASHION FLASHBACK

24th JULY 2026

14:00 - 17:00

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD STALLS, AND TEA & CAKE GARDEN.

PROJECT FLAMINGO

FUNDS RAISED IN SUPPORT OF PROJECT FLAMINGO