

Issue 13 of 2024

# RHENISH NEWS

Excellence ● Compassion ● Accountability  
Integrity ● Diversity ● Respect

## 164 Years of Shaping Learners' Minds And Futures



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Photographs: Mr Piron, Mr Swart, Mrs Forsyth, Mrs Henery, Rhenish Media Services



# Rhenish Girls' High School

**Jana Gouws**

On Monday, 29 April 2024, Rhenish Girls' High School marked a significant milestone, commemorating its 164th birthday.

Being true Rhenishers, the day brimmed with joy and 'gees'. We had an assembly where we reflected on our 164 years of respect, grace, honour and spirit.

We were honoured to welcome esteemed old girl, Dr Dinisha Cooposamy, as our guest speaker, who testified to the profound impact Rhenish had on shaping her life journey. Additionally, leaders from neighbouring schools joined us, extending their warmest wishes on this auspicious occasion.

Once the candles were blown out on the cake and the whole school sang "Happy Birthday", streams of blue and white confetti were thrown into the air by the learners and it was a special moment to celebrate a school as special as Rhenish with all our sisters.

As per tradition, cupcakes were distributed among the learners, with an exciting addition this year- a piñata activity that further enlivened the festivities.

In all, it was a profoundly significant and memorable celebration, uniting us in appreciation for the unique spirit and heritage of our school.

*celebrates its 164th*

*birthday*





# RHENISHERS READY FOR 2024 UCT MATHS COMPETITION

Marie-Elizabeth Roos

The UCT Mathematics competition was held on Thursday, 25 April 2024. A total of 30 learners from grade 8 to grade 12 participated in the competition. The learners enjoyed the beautiful scenery at the University of Cape Town and spent a few hours meeting the participants from other schools.

The learners could participate as individuals or as pairs, and were required to complete 30 questions in 75 minutes. The questions were intriguing and an incredible challenge for Mathematics enthusiasts. This event is always a beautiful celebration of scholarship and the beauty of Mathematics.

A few participants had the following to say:

“The university was wonderful and welcoming. We were surrounded by scenic Cape Town views and the nervousness and excitement of learners from over one hundred different schools. I think we all found the competition quite challenging, but the experience made all of our hard work worthwhile.” said Katie Pratt, Grade 11D





# Rhenish's Siyaphambili - our very own cultural jet-setters

Asemahle Mayekiso



On 2 May 2024, the Siyaphambili Society attended the St Cyprians' School cultural evening, where hip-hop and choir performed.

The evening was filled with various items that showcased the cultural beauty of South Africa and was attended by many schools such as Rondebosch Boys' High School, Wynberg Girls' High School, Bishops Diocesan College, SACS, Springfield Convent Senior School, Groote Schuur High School, Camps Bay High School and

Convent Senior School, Groote Schuur High School, Camps Bay High School and Zonnebloem High School. The hall was filled with warmth, enjoyment, and entertainment as the girls sang their hearts out. During the night we merged with Rondebosch Boys' High School and Wynberg Girls' High School through the singing of isiXhosa songs known as 'Amagwijo' - this was the best way to unite the crowd as others joined and felt the Rhenish spirit presented by Siyaphambili.

Once again, we managed to impress the audience by wipping them off their feet as the hip hop group swayed their hips to the music, whilst the choir shared the melodic sound deep from their vocal cords.

A special thank you to Mrs Jikela and Mrs Booie for accompanying Siyaphambili on this wonderful excursion and for always giving us the opportunity to share our talents with other schools and represent Rhenish in the best way possible.



# RGHS choir charms hearts at 'beKoor' 2024

**Amber Mendes**

'bekoor' is a celebration of all things melody that takes place annually at Paul Roos Gymnasium. Rhenish once again participated in this celebration of arts last week and wowed the audience with their musical talent. Choirs from Paul Roos Gymnasium, Hoër Meisieskool Bloemhof and Hoërskool Stellenbosch joined the festivities, showcasing their hard work. The Paul Roos rock band also made an appearance during the interval, keeping the audience's spirits high.

Our choir was anxious and excited to show off the past five months of hard work before the performance, but the Rhenish spirit stood out alongside the other choirs. The sense of sisterhood and passion for music filled the hall and blew away all in attendance. We began our set with *Let's Sing*, before familiar 'Frozen Favourites' *Vuelie & Into the Unknown*.

Every moment on stage was a thrilling experience and united our choir with a sense of pride for our school.

Thank you to Miss Jerling for her guidance and patience as we prepared for this concert, Ms De Villiers, our skilful accompanist, and Mr Piron for his organisation and media services. We look forward to sharing our new songs with the school very soon.





# Rhenish's orchestra receives Gold Plus at the Stellenbosch Eisteddfod

The Rhenish Girls' High School Orchestra participated in the Stellenbosch Eisteddfod on 20 April 2024.

The orchestra received a Gold Plus award for their pieces Gummy Bears and Test Drive.

We are extremely proud of this award and would like to thank all the members of the orchestra and their families for their support thus far.



# Anything BUT A Bag Day

Caitlin Bennie and Alisha Sampson

On Friday, 3 May, 11B hosted Anything But a Bag Day in aid of fundraising for the matric dance.

Rhenishers were permitted to bring Anything but a school bag to school, which resulted in lots of laughs and noise around the passages! From inflatable pools, inventions, hammocks, Checkers Sixty60 bikes, buckets and trolleys. Everyone got creative in different ways.

Thank you to everyone who supported and got involved; seeing something different around the school was fun. We would also like to thank our own Rhenish Tuckshop for helping us to organise vouchers as prizes for best "bags" (which will be announced next week), Miss Bisset and Ms Schreuder for their help overseeing it.







# ALL GIRLS NETBALL

The High School for Girls Potchefstroom hosted the All Girls' Festival this year. It is a prestigious tournament, and Rhenish sent a netball, hockey and tennis team to participate in the festival.

There was a big welcoming ceremony on 1 May with lots of entertainment and a motivational speaker to keep us busy for the night. We got served dinner at a beautiful venue called the "Snowflake".

The netball games started on Thursday morning at the NWU courts. On the first day, we managed to win both our games comfortably.

Our last pool game was against Affies. It was a challenging game, mentally and physically. We drew against them, but based on goal averages, we ended up second in our pool. In the quarterfinals, we met Bloemhof and beat them 32-12, and then we met Parktown Girls' High School in the semis.

After a long day, we beat Parktown to secure our place in the final, a first for Rhenish Netball. However this meant we had to face Affies again. We narrowly lost against them on Saturday morning. We left Potchefstroom very proud of our achievements. In 2023, our netball team placed 9th overall,

and we improved a lot this year by ending 2nd overall. Five of our team's players also received their 50th cap at this tournament, making it even more special. We had a closing ceremony at High School for Girls Potchefstroom and then we made our way back to Stellenbosch, tired but fulfilled.

A big thank you must go to coach Corne for helping us perform at such a high level, and to Mrs Forsyth, our 'school mom' who is always on hand to assist in any way necessary, and to our parents, Mrs Megom, Dr Kroon and Mrs Henery who travelled to Potch to support us.

**Anja Durand**







# ALL GIRLS HOCKEY



All Girls is a prestigious tournament that has taken place annually for more than 20 years. All public girls' schools from around the country come together and battle it out on the court and field.

On 1 May we departed from Cape Town to Johannesburg and took a 2-hour bus drive to Potchefstroom where the tournament took place. After settling in to our accommodation we enjoyed a lovely opening ceremony with entertainment like no other, making rhythms with unique objects. We were then escorted to an old industrial building where a guest speaker, Warrior Ric, gave us some tips and motivation for the tournament.

Day 1 was an interesting one. Our first game was Jeppe Girls' High

School which we won 13-0. We played some amazing passing hockey. Our next game was Bloemhof and with both teams eager to play, we fought till the final whistle and walked away the 1-1 draw. Our last two games were wins for us, and we celebrated with ice baths.

Day 2 was one to remember for our team. We played Wynberg and walked away with a 5-0 win. Our next game was the one game our team was most pumped for, Oranje. They are an extremely difficult team to beat but we were up for the challenge, and they were out for revenge, having lost to us earlier in the year. We played some phenomenal hockey and beat Oranje in penalty shootouts. Our keeper Jasmine Aitken did an amazing job in defending the Oranje Girls in the shootouts.

This secured our spot in the finals which was played against Affies. The final was a tough game, also ending in a shootout and we walked away with the silver medal and pride in our hearts. The girls did the impossible and had everyone rooting for us.

Thank you to coaches Chris Gerber, Ross Campbell and Christiaan de Kock who kept us from serious injuries and helped us perform at such a high level. Thank you to Mrs De Kock who was our "tour mom" and kept us on time and helped us with everything, thank you to the parents who provided us with waters and limitless support. Lastly but not least thank you to Mrs Megom, Dr Kroon and Mrs Henery for the support throughout the tournament.

**Kaitlyn Van Binsbergen**