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RHENISH NEWS

Excellence ● Compassion ● Accountability
Integrity ● Diversity ● Respect

RHENISHERS' TALENTS BRING LITTLE WOMEN TO LIFE



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Photographs: Ms Jansen van Rensburg, Mr Piron, Rhenish Media Services, Mr Swart

Upcoming Events and Dates

18-20 September 2024



- Matric Dance
- Term 3 Ends

Term 4 Important Dates



- Music Academy - Official Opening



- Colour Run



- Prize Giving



- Valedictory

A journey that resulted in laughter, joy, tears, fears being overcome, new friendships, new skills...the list goes on. This was the Rhenish rendition of Little Women: The Musical. Blood, sweat and tears, and it was worth every moment.

The process of staging a musical begins with choosing a suitable musical. This in itself is a process. Choose the wrong musical and set yourself up for possible failure. After many team meetings with the production staff, the musical was chosen, and the excitement started building. After selecting the musical, however, we needed to obtain the rights to stage this musical legally - a tedious and expensive process but a step that could not be skipped.

Following this came approximately 67 days of rehearsals. 67 might sound like a lot, but for staging a musical of this magnitude, it is a miracle. The word "miracle" is used loosely. It's more than a miracle; it's a testament to the talent and hard work of our Rhenishers. Vocal coaching, acting, learning lines and much more. Another new skill for most of the cast was to sing with a live orchestra sitting in the pit. The music was by no means easy, and they mastered this skill!

Apart from the cast who appeared on stage singing, dancing and acting, there was another side of the musical. We see the result of their hard work but rarely see them. Without their work, the story falls apart. The backstage crew. They had to handle set design, scene changes, costume changes, make-up, tech,

TALENTED RHENISHERS BRING "LITTLE WOMEN" TO LIFE

Leon Piron





props and marketing. This happens under immense pressure, and most learners only learn the skills on the job. They deserve a massive well done. Thank you!

5 August saw the opening night with many VIPs and other members of the Rhenish community joining the cast and crew at the theatre. From former principals to current sponsors, all were treated to an evening of quality music, exceptional acting and precise choreography.

Thank you also to all the staff involved. Our directors, Ms Bisset and Mr Kriel, vocal coaches Mrs Van Amstel, Ms Bisset and Mr Bezuidenhout (Paul Roos), Ms Shaw (make-up), Ms Jansen van Rensburg (props and costumes), Ms Wasserfall (set design), Mr Piron (music director/conductor) Ms Harbour (backstage and programme) and Ms Conchar (choreographer and general “musical mother”). Many parents were also involved in various aspects, and we are very grateful for their input in making this musical what it was. Thank you to the governing body, Mrs Megam, Dr Kroon and Ms Sarga, who saw the value in what was being done and supported us.

We want to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors and supporters who went out of their way to help us make this musical the sold out spectacle that it was:

- The Playhouse Theatre Somerset West and all its staff who have been amazing every step of the way
- Maritha Visagie from Cape Town Opera and her team for the assistance with and loan of Artscape costumes

- Enrique de Villiers from the Stellenbosch University Drama Department for the use of costumes
- All staff, family members, friends and Old Girls who lent or donated props
- Mrs Lisa Jones and Ms Tracey du Toit for Marmee’s chair; the Theunissen family for Aunt March’s chairs
- Zaan de Villiers from Propeller Props for the use of the swords
- Ms Amy Daniels and Mr Hellmuth R. Weich from the University of Stellenbosch’s Department of Ancient Studies for the ink pens and rapier
- Mrs Mariena Kotze from the Rhenish Archive for the loan of the antique chaise
- Mrs Kim Roberts for assistance in moving the show from the school to the theatre
- Mr Leon Singe, Mr Chris Currie and Mr Colin Thwaites for their invaluable assistance in building the attic platform and stairs. We could not have done it without you!
- The Evans family for donating the banners outside the school and the theatre
- All cast and crew parents, family members and friends for their support, patience and transport throughout this process
- The executive of Rhenish Girls’ High School for all their support

The stage has now been set, so to speak, and we look forward to the next musical in the not-so-distant future.

RHENISH
GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL



1860

Portfolios - 2024/2025

School

Hostel



HEAD GIRL
Nicolette
De Lapelin
Dumont



**DEPUTY
HEAD GIRL**
Asemahle
Khumalo



**HEAD
BOARDER**
Robyn
Armitage



**DEPUTY
HEAD BOARDER**
Montana
de Kock

Heads of Pillars



ACADEMIC
Danielle
Currie



CULTURE
Simone
Singe



SPORT
Ruby
Cilliers



**COMMUNITY
SERVICE**
Ava
Stemmett



LEADERSHIP
Taliya
Gouws



**COMMUNICATIONS
& SPIRIT**
Ayomide
Simelane

Mentors



Nikita
Barker



Arabella
Fernandes



Hannah
Gultig



Nina
Kielblock



Xenia
McLachlan



Jemima
Schipper



Kirsten
Snell



Mekayla
Stevens



Amber
Turner



Kristin
Williamson

Matric Comm.



Mwinebuobo
Ansen



Yomelela
Antoni



Anouk
Fourie



Tamryn
Fry



Keisha
Leibrandt



Juliet
Mackinnon



Sara
Rawoot



Isla
Rodrigues



Melissa
Senekal



Allegra
Swart

Cheerleaders



Robyn
Armitage



Courtney
Crossman



Gabrielle
Munro



Sibahle
Pongolo



Caitlyn
Roberts



Jade
Te Roller



Hannah
van den Berg



Sofia
Walker

Heads of Houses

WEBER



Ivana Silence
Captain



Jade Te Roller
Vice-Captain

TERLINDEN



Robyn Armitage
Captain



Milani Sixabayi
Vice-Captain

VAN DER STEL



Ziah Jonkers
Captain



Keisha Leibrandt
Vice-Captain

Does water have a taste?

A few weeks ago, the Grade 10 Geography class embarked on an intriguing scientific experiment to answer a seemingly simple yet thought-provoking question: Does water have a taste? The results of this investigation are bound to surprise many.

In the experiment, learners sampled 13 different water sources, ranging from popular bottled water brands to various local tap water supplies. Each sample was carefully tasted and assessed, and the results were striking. It turns out that water is not as tasteless as one might assume—it has distinct characteristics influenced by its composition.

The critical factor affecting the taste of water is the level of Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), measured in milligrams per litre (mg/L). TDS refers to the amount of dissolved substances in the water, including hydrogen, carbonate ions, magnesium, potassium, sodium, and sulphates. These minerals, while not harmful, play a crucial role in how water tastes. For instance, water with higher TDS levels may have a slightly mineral-like or metallic flavour, while water with very low TDS can taste flat or even "empty".

Mrs Joubert, the Geography teacher who oversaw the project, commented, "Providing our learners with opportunities to engage in practical activities such as this not only enriches their learning experience but also offers them a deeper understanding of what they are consuming. Learners must become more aware of the elements in everyday substances like water, which many of us take for granted."

Upon reviewing the results, it became apparent that not all water is created equal. The water sourced from Somerset West, for instance, scored the lowest in the taste test. This discovery highlights the varying quality of water from different regions and the potential for improvement, even in areas where water is deemed safe to drink.

This experiment opened the eyes of many learners, revealing the subtle complexities behind something as seemingly simple as water. It also provided valuable insights into the importance of water quality. This issue remains relevant as we continue to seek ways to improve public access to cleaner and better-tasting water.



No.	Location	Score out of 10	Taste?
1	Clayville (83) Gauteng	7	mg. bubbles had
2	Ceres valley	3½	FAKE, no flavour Plastic
3	Clayville (44)	5½	Clearer, smooth
4	Priel, Stellenbosch	3	Chlorine after taste
5	Checkers, bottle water	8	Smooth taste like water
6	Kuilsriver filtered	6½	Sweet taste "sweet smell"
7	Strand	4½	Taste like salty
8	Kuilsriver tap	7½	Chlorine, smooth
9	Mountain water Stellenbosch	7½	Quite clean

TDS — Total dissolved Solids
it is the total amount of solids dissolved in water

— Its concentration will affect the taste of drinking Water

- soluble hydrogen
- Carbonate ions
- Magnesium
- potassium
- Sodium
- Sulphates

No.	Location	Score out of 10	Taste?
10	Devon valley Stellenbosch	9	Really good, smooth, splendid
11	Somerset West	2½	Chlorine Thick
12	Clayville (83) Gauteng	6½	Thick empty
13	Banhoek Valley	7	Soil, earthy

Mackenzie Cup Water Polo Tournament

Sofia Walker



The weekend of 13-15 September, Rhenish's first water polo team participated in the annual U19 Mackenzie Cup tournament hosted by Reddam House, Constantia.

In the tournament's opening fixture, we had a nail-biting match against Pearson High School, which resulted in a tie. This led to a penalty shootout to decide who would take the win. After we won in shootouts, emotions were high, and this marked our first of many victories. Our game against Reddam - the hosts - resulted in a disappointing 10-3 loss, but this only fueled our determination: later that same evening, we beat Somerset College 13-1 in an excellent water polo showcase.

Over the three days, the team improved hugely; each match performance was better than the last, and each player fought harder than the previous day. It was amazing to see such perseverance and passion amongst the team - even when some of the games didn't go according to plan. As a young team, it can be quite intimidating and overwhelming to be competing against girls older than you, but the team kept their composure throughout the tournament and never dropped their heads. A special mention goes to Genevieve Ward, who made the list of top goal scorers in the tournament.

Overall, Rhenish placed 6th out of 16 teams. We are extremely proud of this result, as this was our first tournament together as a newly selected team. We look forward to a fun and exciting season ahead, filled with success and learning.

Rhenish STARS

Josephine Schliemann represented the Western Province in the Westown South African Youth Championships and received her full colours for both equitation and show jumping.



The following Rhenishers have been selected for the following Western Province Water Polo teams:

U14B

Samantha Cole

Emily van Selm

Rachel Dekker (Non-Travelling Reserve)

Dani Henn (Non-Travelling Reserve)

U15B

Emily-Grace Truter

U16B

Genevieve Ward

Cara Brink (Non-Travelling Reserve)

U19A

Bella Murray

Sofia Walker



Our Junior Debating Team won the Boland League Debating Junior Final as they defeated Hottentos-Holland High School. Aryanna Rooke was awarded the best speaker for the team.



The U15A tennis team emerged as champions of the Afrikaans Hoër Meisieskool, Pretoria's Tennis Tournament by defeating the hosts 3-1 in the final.

Jenna Theron was named Player of the Tournament, and Ashley Taylor and Jenna Theron received the Best Doubles Combination award.



Prize Giving 2024 Donation of Indigenous Flowers

Prize Giving is on 9 October
at the Stellenbosch Town
Hall and we are looking for
parents who are able to:

- donate indigenous flowers for the arrangements for the stage
- assist on the day with the arrangement of these flowers on the stage



contact - rozanne.vandyk@rhenish.co.za

Please drop any donations in the bins provided outside the sports office. Until the **30th of August**



DON'T THROW IT OUT... DONATE IT!

Rhenish is hosting a sports equipment drive for local underprivileged schools.

PLEASE DONATE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- OLD EXERCISE CLOTHES
- HOCKEY STICKS
- SHIN PADS
- TENNIS RACKETS
- NETBALL BALLS
- SPORTS SHOES
- ANY OTHER SUITABLE SPORTING EQUIPMENT

(NB!! Please do not bring any unusable equipment, clothes or shoes. Please **NO Rhenish or other school clothes**)



BOOK DRIVE

2024



**BRING YOUR BOOKS DIRECTLY
TO THE LIBRARY
UNTIL THE END OF TERM 3!
AGE RANGE: 5 TO 9**



PRIZES TO BE WON!

The books that will be collected will go to Weber Gedenk Primary School and the USIKO After Care.

Pre-primary and primary school age range in a good condition - not the very old mouldy books that no one wants anymore.

Our target: grade 8s and 9s to make room on their bedroom shelf for new adolescent books.

This is one of the community highlights for Rhenish that we wish to keep up.