

OUR MOTTO

Learn Good,
Do Good,
Be Good.

The ECHO

TSHWANE MUSLIM SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER



EDITORIAL

- Naseeha Dockrat – Deputy Head Girl 2023 -

Alhamdulillah, I've had the honour of serving as Deputy Head Girl this past year. I can't lie, the initial thrill, excitement and sense of accomplishment that came with hearing my name being announced had me over the moon! But being in a position of leadership is so much more than just having a title or authority over others. Anyone can tell people what to do, but it takes a real leader to show them how to do it. A true leader is one who is not silent about difficult things and has the confidence to stand alone. If there's anything that high school has taught me, it's exactly that. Standing up for yourself and others and speaking up about what is right is extremely difficult, more so when you do it alone. However hard it may feel, it is what helps us stay true to ourselves and will take us further in life, because if you don't stand for something, you'll fall for everything. As grateful as I am for being given this amazing opportunity, I hope that I was deserving of it, that I did not fall short in performing my duty, and that one day, I too will be lucky enough to call myself a great leader.

As my journey at Tshwane Muslim School comes to an end, I would like to express my gratitude to each individual who played a part in paving the way forward. Jazakallah for affording us the opportunity to receive a quality education and to create memorable experiences. From our nurturing pre-school teachers who were patient with us in our early years, to our experienced Matric teachers who constantly pushed us to achieve our true potential and to every other educator who held our hands and guided us through our school careers. Without your passion for teaching, reaching this incredible milestone would not have been possible. May Allah (SWT) allow you the strength to continue to pass on your knowledge and expertise for many more years to come and reward you all immensely for your hard work, Ameen.

To our apas and moulanas, may we inculcate the Islamic ethos and hold firm onto the valuable life lessons that you have taught us. May every good deed we do be a means of Sadaqah Jaariyah and entry into Jannah for you and may the Almighty reward you abundantly for your efforts, Ameen. A huge thank you to the support staff who always ensured that we had a clean and safe environment to learn in on a daily basis. May Allah (SWT) take Tshwane Muslim School from strength to strength and allow it to educate generation after generation. May He reward our principal, Board of Governors and all the staff members of this institution innumerable in this world and in the next for their sacrifices and for investing time and care into our learning and development, Ameen.

Lastly, to my fellow classmates and friends...

The hardest thing school never taught us was how to say goodbye. For most of us, this is the last time we'll ever see each other again before going our separate ways. Even though we can't turn back time and relive it, we can hold onto the happy times we shared and cherish the memories made. This year was filled with lasts, but we have a lifetime of firsts ahead of us to look forward to. Although our futures are uncertain, we should always strive to follow in the footsteps of our beloved Nabi Muhammed (SAW) in every aspect of our lives and be the flag bearers of Islam. I make Dua to Allah (SWT) that all of our late nights, early mornings, discipline and perseverance is worth it in the end. That we can look back and be content with the effort we put in and feel proud of ourselves due to how far we've come. Regardless of the road you decide to venture down, may the Almighty fill it with nothing but barakah, happiness and success, Ameen.

I'll leave you with a quote by Robert Frost, "Two roads diverged in a wood and I- I took the one less travelled by, and that has made all the difference." I encourage you, the Class of 2023, to not only take advantage of the opportunities available to you, but to follow your heart and not give up on the hopes and dreams you've had for yourself as a child. To pursue a course that has meaning and gives you fulfilment and a purpose in this world, instead of merely following in the path of previous generations or simply to meet societal expectations. I challenge you to create a path of your own. The risks will be greater, but the war always makes the win so much sweeter. For true bliss and satisfaction in life lies neither in the money nor in the notoriety of a position; but rather in making a positive impact in the lives of others and doing what you love.

HIFZ COMPLETIONS

One of the greatest accomplishments one can achieve through the course of one's life is the memorisation and sealing of the Holy Quraan within one's heart. Alhamdulillah, through the grace of the Almighty, TMS has witnessed the completion of the following huffaaz during the second half of 2023:

Haafidbah Yaseera Aboo
– Grade 10

Haafidh Muhammed Riyas
– Grade 9

THE SCIENCE EXPO

Iman Mohamed & Amani Omar – Grade 9A

On Tuesday, the 25th of July, students from Grade 7 to 9 took part in the Science Expo held at school. We were presented with the choice between two topics: Robotics or Electricity. Our task was to build something that would truly impress the judges. Throughout the day, we were enthralled by the numerous projects on display, ranging from solar-powered windmills to intricate robotic arms. It was remarkable to see the dedication of the students who remained focused and made projects that not only impressed but also had a positive impact on the environment. Witnessing such innovative solutions was a tremendous learning experience for all of us, and we thoroughly enjoyed the exhilarating process of creating our own project.





LITERARY Festival

TMS was abuzz during the 6th annual Literary Festival hosted on the 2nd of August 2023. A variety of authors visited the school and presented their publications and workshops. The Grade 6 girls were treated to a recipe-writing course which they all thoroughly enjoyed, together with a scrumptious taco. Tasneem Bulbulia, author of Rays of Your Heart, hosted a quote competition for the Grade 7 and 9 girls. Our girls displayed talent and the competition was rife. Amira Moti was the Grade 9 winner and Amana Moosa the Grade 7 winner. Words and wonder filled the Foundation Phase as well. Letterbird Books generously donated two sets of their latest publications to our Foundation Phase. Our very first book swap was an exciting event for all the learners, where they were required to swap old treasures for new ones. In addition to exploring their own collections, learners were also able to discover something new. We can definitely expect this to be a feature in future Literature Festivals. The day was a resounding success echoed by all in attendance.

Although we couldn't meet all the authors, we were fortunate enough to receive a few messages from our esteemed guests:

Ashraf Ismail - *Wishing you a highly productive, pro-active, positive, progressive and protected 2023 and beyond.*

Bilal Kathrada - *Be the BEST you can be.*

Hooked on Books -

Always remember that reading is Fun-damental.

Purposeful Giving - *Jazakallah for the opportunity to meet the girls and to showcase our charity recipe book. Love and duas, PG Ladies.*

Maryam Mkwanda - *The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go. Happy reading!!*

Phumelele Sakina Dolomo - *The best gift to give is a book*

Tasneem Bulbulia - *Never let people bring you down, they are just people. Hold on to your strength.*

Nasira Bhamjee - *Your words have power. Own it.*

Zunaid Mosum - *“Until the story of the hunt is told by the lion, the tale of the hunt will always glorify the hunter.”*

Goolam Suleman - *This Literary Festival is a fantastic inspiration and initiative by the Tshwane Muslim School. May Allah (SWT) bless your efforts to continue this inspiring work, Insha Allah.*

Yusuf Garda - *May this school grow in literary strength. It serves as an inspiration for learners and authors. May your school produce great authors. Well done!*



WITS INTEGRATED EXPERIENCE

On 23rd June 2023, learners attended this short course which was designed to expose them to real-life scenarios and develop 21st-century soft skills like critical thinking and creativity in problem-solving. This experience also exposed them to the evolving career opportunities within the different faculties and showcased the interdisciplinary nature of these various branches within the five disciplines. Our school was represented by 5 learners from Grade 11: Muhammad Zuhair Abdoola, Ali El Lakis, Zayaan Ebrahim, Amani Dawood and Aaliyah Dawood

Our “team of experts” were invited by WITS to carry out a preliminary investigation into the meteorite crash, develop a suitable response to the disaster situation and propose a plan of action to rehabilitate the area after the crash. On 04 August 2023, learners attended the second part of the WIE course. They presented their findings, research, response and plan of action to a panel of judges. Tshwane Muslim School was commended on the research and findings. Each learner received a medal and certificate of competence for their sterling efforts!

VISIT TO THE GHUSL KHANA

“Every soul shall taste death”
[Quraan 3:185]

As Muslims, we believe that after death, one must be cleansed of all impurities through the process of ghusl. This compulsory act reflects the importance of cleanliness and hygiene in Islam. The Grade 9–11 girls were given the opportunity to visit the ghusl khana at Masjid Bilal in Term 3. During the visit, a practical demonstration of the ghusl process was carried out. This was truly an eye-opening and humbling experience. It taught us that no matter what our status in this world may be, when we are deceased, we will be wrapped in a simple shroud (kafan) and then laid to rest in the grave. Through this, we acknowledge the temporary nature of this world and the importance of leading a life of piety. We also applaud and thank the brave leaders and volunteers who spend their time assisting grieving family members with this task. Yusairah Limbada – Grade 10A



MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS' DAY

The Mothers and Daughters' Day is an annual event that offers a day of special bonding between mother and daughter. The school was filled with uncontainable anticipation just before the event officially began at 9am on the 5th of August 2023. The event was meticulously planned and offered something for everyone. The little ones were kept occupied with exciting activities and games. The joy on their faces was contagious as they enjoyed activities such as horse riding, ice skating, obstacle courses, rock climbing, and many other fun-filled activities. While the kids were involved in these activities the mothers were kept occupied by the various stalls in the hall and courtyards. From food vendors serving mouth-watering delicacies to an assortment of clothing and other trinkets, there was plenty to explore and enjoy. Additionally, a stall not to be missed was the “Habibi's Tea Garden” hosted by the Grade 11 girls. The earnings from the stall will be used to cater a lunch for the school's Support Staff at the end of the year. The day ended successfully and was enjoyed by all those who attended. A huge thank you to all the educators and participants who made the day an unforgettable experience, I am already waiting in anticipation for the next one.

Naveedha Zakir | Grade 11A

MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS' HIKE

The annual Mothers and Daughters' Hike that took place on the 15th October was dedicated this year to Palestine and was a huge success. Students, teachers, and families came together to experience a day filled with laughter and activity. The event kicked off with a beautiful Qiraat recited by one of our students, before we began the hike at 7:30am. The recitation created a peaceful mood. The hike was followed by a delicious breakfast, prepared by the staff and student council, which consisted of eggs, toast, chips, polony and beans as well as a kids' table with fluffy waffles and sweets. Students and families were then treated to refreshing ice creams as well as hot tea with a variety of cakes and biscuits. This event was not only about the hike, but also fostered a sense of unity and pride within the school community. Overall, it was truly an extraordinary day that will be cherished by all. Zainub Mather | Grade 10A



MATRIC VS BEST OF THE REST

This eagerly anticipated event is more than just a match; it’s a tradition that fosters school spirit and healthy competition. Year after year, the anticipation and excitement continues to build as students of all ages gear up to showcase their skills on the field, creating memories to last them a lifetime. For weeks leading up to the event, the entire school buzzes with energy as students practice their dribbling, passing, and shooting skills. Friendships form between unlikely teammates, and a sense of togetherness permeates the school. This sense of unity extends beyond the students as teachers and staff members enthusiastically support the event, often taking on the roles of coaches and referees.

Students proudly don their school colours and design signs to cheer on their classmates. The rivalry between different grades adds an extra layer of excitement, with each grade aiming to outshine the others not only in terms of soccer prowess but also in creativity and enthusiasm. The atmosphere is electric, and the game becomes a celebration of all things that make the school community special. While the competition is fierce, the emphasis is always on fair play and sportsmanship. Students learn the value of teamwork, discipline, and respect for opponents. The annual soccer game serves as a platform to reinforce these essential life skills, promoting a healthy attitude toward competition that extends far beyond the boundaries of the field.

With its power to foster school spirit, promote healthy competition, and create lasting memories, this event has become an integral part of the school’s identity. As the years go by and new generations of students take to the field, the legacy of the annual soccer game continues to thrive, uniting the school in a shared passion.

Zidaan Nagdee - Grade 10B

- BEST OF THE REST -

Alhamdulillah, by the wisdom and mercy of Allah SWT, Tshwane Muslim School was again able to host the “Matric vs Best of the Rest” netball match. The Matrics were cheered on during their grand entrance onto the netball courts. The game was an exciting one that was played for 45 minutes long. However, there could only be ONE CHAMP and that was The Rest. Congratulations to all the players who contributed to our winning streak as we once again managed to defeat the Matrics. A big Jazakallahu Khairun to Appa Khadija and Appa Fatima for their continuous support and efforts in helping us prepare for the game.

Aaliyah Patel & Afifa Mulla – Grade 11B

FATHERS AND SONS’ HIKE

On the 17th of September, the fathers and sons from Tshwane Muslim School eagerly embarked on our annual 5km hike with great enthusiasm. This year, we had an impressive turnout of over 400 participants. The day began on a beautiful, sunny morning. My friends and I had the privilege of organizing and distributing water to the hikers. It turned out to be a day well spent, filled with cherished memories alongside friends and family. On the hike, the fresh air and the beauty of nature made for an unforgettable experience. The day’s highlight undoubtedly was the delicious breakfast served by the TMS staff, which was deemed the best breakfast ever by our guests. The event was a resounding success.

Hamza Moolla – Grade 10B

CONQUESTA OLYMPIAD

Nabeelah Yousuf - Grade 7A

Conquestas are a great activity for young learners to build their confidence and boost their knowledge. During the course of the week: we experienced mixed emotions; from anxiousness to excitement, as we sat down to write our last and final Conquesta Olympiad. The Conquesta is different from our usual tests and goes beyond what we’ve learnt. Although it was a bit challenging, we came out knowing more than we did before. In the end, everyone was awarded with a certificate for their achievements.



2023/2024 SENIOR RCL COMMITTEE

Leadership is not a position or a title... It is action and an example. The annual RCL elections were once again held in true electoral style, fully equipped with ballot sheets and voting booths. After some very stiff competition at the polls, Masha Allah, our newest RCL members and leaders for the 2023/2024 academic year are:

- Head Boy - Muhammad Zubair Abdoola Gr11
- Head Girl - Amani Dawood Gr11
- Deputy Head Boy - Ali El- Lakkis Gr 11
- Deputy Head Girl - Safiyyah Dockrat Gr 11
- Deputy Head Boy - Zidaan Nagdee Gr 10
- Deputy Head Girl - Yumna Kader Gr 10

Grade 10 Boys

- Hamza Ameermia
- Muhammed Yusuf Bhayla
- Hamzah Ellemdin
- Azhar Ganchi
- Noormuhammed Hassan
- Amaan Mansoor
- Hamza Moolla
- Aboobakar Noorani
- Ahmad Sujee
- Muhammad Razeen Sujee

Grade 10 Girls

- Yaseera Aboo
- Zainab Mather
- Yusairah Limbada
- Saalibah E Sujee
- Munisa N Patel
- Sidra Ahmed
- Husnaa Ismail
- Fatima Rana
- Nawwaal Ismail

Grade 11 Boys

- Faizaan Ahmed
- Abdul Aziz Elbefnawy
- Zayaan Ebrahim
- Luqman Hoosen
- Muhammed Jeewa
- Salmaan Moolla
- Mohamed Omar

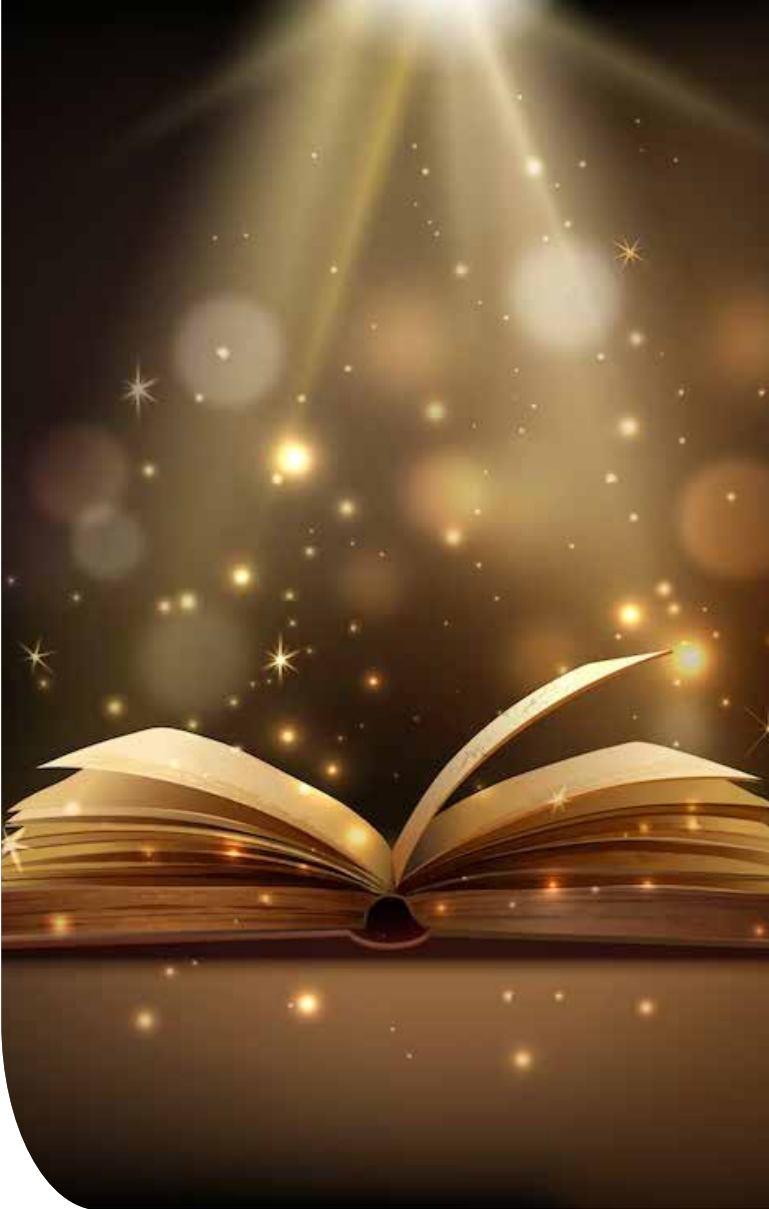
Grade 11 Girls

- Husna Amod
- Aaliyah Dawood
- Humaira Dockrat
- Liyyah Dockrat
- Zabeen Dockrat
- Ameerah Mall
- Hafsah Manjara
- Aayesha Moosa
- Afifa Mulla
- Haanee Noor
- Aatiqah Tai
- Aasimah Tai
- Zaakirah Suleman

The Al Wida which took place on the 20th of October and was the perfect send off for our Matric class of 2023. The night began with a heartfelt welcome by Moulana Manjara and a beautiful Quraan recitation and translation by Abdul Aziz Elhefnawy and Zuhair Abdoola. Thereafter an insightful and inspirational speech was delivered by our Chairman, Muhammed Dockrat. A delicious supper was served and Esha salaah was prayed before a thought-provoking address was delivered to us by Moulana Badsha, our principal. Our Headgirl and Headboy, Zahraa’ Patel and Hafiz Zayyan Dockrat, shared sentimental and humorous reflections about their time at Tshwane Muslim School and a beautiful nasheed was recited by Moulana Ahmed Dockrat before the awards for the Class of 2023 were announced.

After the Quraan awards, the top ten academic achievers and the subject awards were presented, followed by the special awards. The Jamiat Akhlaaq Award was awarded to Zakir Yousuf and the DUX award for outstanding academic performance as well as a cash prize from the University of Pretoria to Maseeha Mather. The Good Fellowship and Hifz awards were presented to Hafiz Muneer Kola and the Principal’s award to Muaaz Ameerma. The night ended off with humorous, sentimental and clever quotes chosen by the Class of ‘23 and some wise words by Moulana Yusuf Abed. The night was a lovely ode to our matric class and the time they spent here at Tshwane Muslim School. We at TMS wish them all the best in their endeavours.

Yumna Kader | Grade 10 A



QIRAAT JALSAS

The Grade 4-11 Qiraat Jalsahs were a captivating event that showcased the remarkable talents of our young reciters. With participants from all grades, the stage was set for a morning of exquisite Quranic recitations. The reciters delivered their verses with captivating voices, leaving the audience mesmerized by the power and grace of their recitations. The atmosphere was truly enchanting, as the Holy Quran’s verses resonated through the air, evoking a deep sense of reverence and tranquillity.

The impact of the recitations was palpable, touching the hearts of listeners and creating an atmosphere of spiritual connection. The Grade 10 Qiraat Jalsah not only celebrated the art of recitation but also allowed attendees to experience the profound influence of the Quranic verses.

Zia Shivani | Grade 10B



HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

On Thursday the 21st of September, the teachers and learners of TMS commemorated Human Rights Day. The entire school was decorated with South African flags designed by the learners and a walk-through South Africa’s heritage was recreated in the school’s main corridor. Features on display included an authentic traditional hut, a model of Bo-Kaap as well as Masjid Auwal accompanied by a series of facts pertaining to our country’s history all designed from scratch by Apa Nuraan. The Grade 10 learners’ contribution to the day included having a braai and selling wors rolls to raise funds. Throughout the day the tantalizing smell of meat being braaied waltzed through the school’s hallways. The highlight of the day however, was the human flag made up of the TMS girls from Grades 4-12. It was an absolutely memorable day showcasing South African patriotism and the spirit of TMS teamwork.



SPELLING BEE

On Tuesday the 21st of September, the Grade 7-11 learners participated in an internal Spelling Bee amongst their peers. The first round of the competition took place in class at the beginning of the term where all the learners in each grade wrote a spelling test from a set of unknown words. The top two spellers from each grade then moved onto the next round where they then had to go up against the top six learners from the grade. After the Grade Elimination Round, the competition moved on to the GET and FET Round in which a winner was chosen from each category, based on their ability to spell under pressure. The final round was between the GET and FET winners who were quizzed on a separate set of 10 words. The speller with the most correct words was then crowned the winner.

Congratulations to Luqman Hoosen on his position as runner up and Amani Omar who was yet again our overall winner in the 2023 Spelling Bee.

OVER AND ABOVE

- 28/07 - Address by Guest Speakers from the UK
- 03/08 - Senior RCL Elections
- 04/08 - Grade 4-6 Boys’ Enrichment Program
- 07/08 -10/08 – Intermediate and Senior Phase Conquesta Olympiads
- 22/08-30/08 – Qiraat Jalsas : Grades 4-11
- 25/08 - RCL Induction Workshop
- 20/08 - Qiraat Competition
- 21/08 - Spelling Bee
- 22/08 - Grade 4-6 Girls’ Enrichment Program
- 26/08 - Maths Fun Day
- 27/08 - Grade 4-11 Excursions
- 11/10 - Assembly for Palestine Awareness

- 12/10 - CV Writing Workshop
 - 13/10 - TIBB Stress Management Workshop and Breakfast
 - 18/10 - Quraan Quiz
 - 25/10 - External Imtihaan
- Salaah Practicals - The Grades 4-11’s were engaged in weekly salaah practicals in which they were informed about the foundation and importance of salaah and thereafter reminded of the postures and their salaah duas with the sole intention of improving their salaah.