



Scottsville Primary School

Founded 1915

The School That Cares

27 March 2026

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Principal's Communication Letter 2 of 2026 – Term 1 # 2

What a First Term this has been – everyone at the school seems to have been racing through the term at break neck speed! I do hope this Communication finds you and your families very well.

1. SYSTEMIC GLOBAL CHILD ONLINE SAFETY

- 1.1 I would first like to talk about **Australia's Social Media Ban** which the school received notice of from SFC South Africa (for further information you can find Hugo on www.sfc-sa.co.za).
 - 1.2 This is an Experiment being done in Australia and looked at here in South Africa, that understands the realities of raising children in an era of unchecked online exposure, not only not seeing the risks but are advocating for systemic global child online safety.
 - 1.3 As this is an Australian experiment, they are looking to explore child on-line safety, the current gaps in online protection and the journey towards Australia's landmark social media age restrictions. You will be given honest insights into the successes and challenges behind how the law was designed, how it is working, the impacts it's having, and the next steps towards effective implementation.
 - 1.4 Dany Elachi, of the Heads Up Alliance in Australia, was concerned as a parent which sparked a nationwide call in Australia for reform that became a global shift.
 - 1.5 The policy shift is an inside look at Australia's move to regulate social media age limits, and what it means for children, teens and families.
 - 1.6 With lessons from the frontlines, age gating and verification options, the enforcement reality, cultural shifts and the "VPM problem" has been learned so far.
 - 1.7 The Global roadmap is what Australian law means for the rest of the world.
 - 1.8 Whether you are a parent, an educator, or a concerned citizen, contact with Hugo at www.sfc-sa.co.za will provide incredible insights into one of the most significant global shifts towards the online safety of this generation of teens.
2. **Sport** : The school is grateful to all the parents who support their children's matches, as this gives our learners added impetus to drive harder – and, **in addition**, it makes our school very proud of the Achievements earned by some of our learners this term in the following categories -
- **Umgungundlovu Athletics Representatives:**
Bridget Ayisa, Ziphezinhle Dube, Aphelele Mthethwa and Khwezi Mfeka.
 - **KZN Athletics Representative:** Aphelele Mthethwa.

Well done!

Theme for 2026: "Arise and Shine"
TENEBRIS LUX

- As the school holidays start some of our boys are playing at three different Rugby Festivals - **‘Maritzburg College, Cowen House and Vryheid** – we wish our learners and their coaches well, and we hope they enjoy every minute of this experience. Go Scottsville! We are all routing for you.
3. **D-6 Communicator and Technology** - A number of parents have been contacting the school to say that they have not yet received their children’s reports. Reports and most other communication is sent **via the d-6 platform**, and if you have not yet installed this APP, please do, making sure that all your information is correct. This App is proving an excellent way to communicate with the school and with our parents. Please contact the office if you need help setting this App up.
 4. **Windows on Work & SGB By-Election** – The SGB By-Election and the Windows on Work evening are both scheduled for **Wednesday 15 April 2026**, with the By-Election taking place in the Hall from 17:30, followed by Windows on Work. We are sending out an official notification from the school for the By-Election shortly.
 5. **Evening Events** – We thank you for attending school evening events, as your children love having you see their classrooms and what they are doing.
 6. **Cake Sales** – Thank you to all our parents who have supported our Cake Sales, for their contributions and assistance. We are very grateful for all you do.
 7. **Second Term Calendar** – will be available at the beginning of the Second Term. In the meantime, please note that school re-opens for the Second Term on **Wednesday 8 April 2026**, and there will be no sport that day – All Sport will start on **Thursday 9th April 2026**, and on Friday 11 April 2026, there will be **Rugby vs Howick**.
 8. **Dropping Off and Collecting Children** – this is still a major concern for the school and we ask parents/public transport to be mindful of the following:
 - 9.1 Learners going on outings/excursion with the school will be Picked-Up and Dropped off on the Top Field.
 - 9.2 When parents are dropping off and collecting their children, they should be dropped off at one of the gates that are open and watched until they are in the school safely. When they are being collected, the children must be collected from outside the gate – the traffic is so dangerous.
 - 9.3 With Public Transport, please advise the drivers that the children should be dropped off outside the gate, and also watched until they are in the school safely and they should be picked up outside the gate too.
 - 9.4 Running backwards and forewords across the roads to reach their lifts is highly dangerous.
 - 9.5 Kindly consider the safety of our learners, parents and staff.
 9. **Lost Property** –
 - 10.1 This is also a major concern for the school – there is so much lost property at the school at present, anyone looking for something in the room set aside for Lost Property has to find a path through the chaos –
 - 10.2 We encourage our parents/guardians to please use labels for your children’s clothing – uniforms, etc., are expensive. Everything should be labelled or marked.
 - 10.3 As much as possible, and if clothing, shoes, etc. are labelled or marked, the school is trying to return items to the classroom of the child – but, if it’s not labelled we can’t do that.

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- 10.4 When the clothes build up, the items are taken to the basketball court, and the learners are told that if their lost property is not collected by a certain date, it will be donated.
- 10.5 The school is starting Uniform checks and if the children's belongings are not marked, the school will contact the parents advising that their children will be put on detention.

10. **Access Control**

- 11.1 The school has had a number of issues with people entering in the incorrect entrances and we would like to advise parents of the following:
- If you are entering the school, you will be given a visitors tag at reception and you will be requested to sign a Visitors book when you arrive and when you leave.
 - The only entrance to the school will be the main front office by the Hall and this applies to Pre-Primary parents up to Grade 7 parents.
 - We will be putting up boarding advising "NO PARENTS BEYOND THIS POINT, NO SMOKING or VAPING IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS", and that "**NO FIREARMS** WILL BE PERMITTED ONTO THE SCHOOL PROPERTY".
- 11.2 The school's main priority is to protect our learners, teachers and staff. Please kindly adhere to these new restrictions at the school. Thank you.

Thank you for your patience in taking the time to read this important communication. Myself and our staff members wish you and your families a very Blessed Easter and Happy Holidays, and we will see your children back refreshed and ready to start Term 2 on 8 April 2026.

Keep Safe and God Bless.



M.I. MKHIZE

Principal, Scottsville Primary School