

Hurlynews

Date: April 2026



Tests are Around the Corner.

You should have, by now, received your exam timetables, and the inevitable stress and tension levels in your home have begun to rise. Take heart, this too shall pass. Remember that a stitch in time saves nine, so start implementing small adaptations to avoid stress later. Ensure that your child has a workable study timetable and is revising and learning every day. Clamp down on device usage and monitor phones, especially at bedtime. Get your child into a healthy routine of outdoor play and nourishing snacks. Please remember that normal school hours apply during exams. Regular teaching will resume after the test session. Help your child pack accordingly, as new concepts and content will continue to be introduced. It is also important to remember that a doctor's note is required should your child need to catch up on any missed assessments. This will be scheduled according to the teacher's availability.

Big Walk Part 2

It was 1,2,3.. GO as our littlies released their exuberance and shot off in scenes reminiscent of the Comrades. Calls to "WALK!" and "Pace yourself!" fell on deaf ears, as they raced from one station to the next, overtaking and leaping over obstacles. However, it wasn't long before the realisation dawned that this was indeed a Big Walk and not a run. At around the second lap, the energy started flagging, and complaints of "this is a VERY BIG walk" were heard. But, although energies dipped, tenacity and enthusiasm did not. Cheered along by grandparents, aunties and other supporters, there was no shortage of encouragement and guidance. The event proved greatly entertaining and fun for all involved. If we could only take heart that next year's littlies will have learned the ropes, but alas, we can not, as the new batch will have to learn their own timeless lesson, "It's a big WALK and not a big RUN".

An exciting visitor

Hurlyvale Primary had the distinct honour of hosting world-renowned South African artist and illustrator, Karabo Poppy Moletsane. She spent the morning enchanting our Grade 1-3 learners with a reading of *Hugged by the Night*, a beautiful book featuring her illustrations that ignited the imaginations of our youngest students.

The inspiration continued with our Grade 7s, who participated in a fascinating Q&A session. They are currently studying Karabo's unique style for their term project, which was inspired by her famous KFC bucket illustrations. Meeting her was a profound experience. We extend our deepest gratitude to Karabo Poppy and Jonathan Ball Publishers for this unforgettable visit, which left both our students and staff feeling truly inspired.

Book Character Day

It isn't every day that you get to teach Winnie the Pooh and Darth Vader in the same class! Many Harry Potters later, and you could be forgiven for thinking that you were in an alternative reality. Hurly kids once again did not disappoint. Book character dress-up day had everything from the bizarre to the trusty, as there was everything from half-dead marsupials to stealthy ninjas, and always the favourite: various versions of the Minion. The part that most teachers find challenging, apart from structuring effective lessons for everything from animals to fairyfolk, is selecting the best costume. Please explain to your children that staying home because you chose to be "The invisible student" is not funny!

Still Outstanding

While our Big Walk was primarily an opportunity for fun and a welcome respite from the daily routine, its central purpose was fundraising for our school. Please return all sponsorship forms and any outstanding money to the school as soon as possible. Your support in finalizing these collections is greatly appreciated

Take Note!

- ★ Controlled test week 25/5 until 4/6.
- ★ Extra Murals paused 25/5 until 4/6.
- ★ Mother's Day sales on Karri close on 4/5.
- ★ Full winter uniform from Monday 4/5. Full tracksuits may be worn as winter uniform. Tracksuit pants cannot be worn without a jacket.
- ★ Eisteddfod dates have been moved to 17,18,19, 22 June.

Save the Date

Mark your calendars, Hurlyvale family! On Saturday, 09 May, our school grounds will be buzzing with action, strategy, and pure school spirit. Come and witness our incredible learners living out our motto, STRIVE, across four fantastic disciplines.

We are proud to feature: Chess, Robotics, U13 Soccer, and Mini Netball (Grade 1-3 Stars). The fun starts at 8 am at the school.

Knowledge is power

Probably the most important improvement any parent can make to their routine and their child's life is to spend time with them. Prioritise both quantity and quality time. Switch off the TV and talk to them. Kids thrive on attention, and before you realise it, the opportunity to build those formative relationships has passed. When parents spend focused time with their children, it builds a deep sense of security and trust. This "secure attachment" helps children feel loved and valued. It also helps children learn how to express their thoughts and feelings clearly and teaches them the "give and take" of social conversation. Children who have meaningful interactions with their parents feel more grounded because they feel that they matter. They are heard. When a parent prioritises time with a child—whether it's playing a game or going for a walk—it sends a powerful message that the child is important. This builds the child's self-worth and gives them the confidence to tackle challenges at school or with peers. Did you know that research shows that children who have strong, supportive relationships at home tend to perform better in school? They often have higher concentration levels and better social skills, making it easier for them to make friends and work in teams.