

**TWENTY
TWENTY
THRIVE 20
25**



ST DUNSTAN'S COLLEGE
EST 1918

Pre-School Newsletter

MICHAELMAS TERM | ISSUE 16 | IMPORTANCE OF CONCERTS EDITION 2025

Why Pre-School Concerts Matter

As the season of concerts approaches, it often stirs up a mixed bag of emotions for teachers: anticipation, excitement and yes, sometimes even nerves. It brings weeks of practices, countless tweaks and the occasional last-minute change because something "just did not feel right." Then there are the unforgettable surprises, the child who bursts into their own version of Jingle Bells mid-song, the one who breaks into the Macarena during a serious recital or the little star waving enthusiastically at Granny in the front row. Sometimes, we even get the brave soul who announces, "I need the toilet!" the very moment the lights go up.

Behind the giggles, nerves and occasional chaos lies the deeper purpose of Pre-School concerts. They are not simply about a polished performance, they are about growth, courage and the celebration of childhood.

When a Pre-Schooler steps onto the stage, they are stepping into courage. For many, it is their very first experience standing in front of an audience. That moment of bravery, singing out, remembering a move or simply smiling at the crowd, plants seeds of confidence that grow far beyond the concert itself. It tells a child "I can do this. My voice matters. I am capable."

Concerts also nurture essential skills that are gently woven into every practice. Children practice patience as they wait for their turn, strengthen memory as they recall songs or lines and develop coordination as they link actions with music. They learn to listen carefully, follow cues and take their place in something bigger than themselves. These are not only performance skills, they are life skills that will support their learning for years to come.

Equally important is the sense of togetherness concerts foster. Every child has a role, whether leading or standing proudly alongside friends. Together, they create something meaningful, an experience filled with teamwork, encouragement and shared delight.

Most importantly, concerts celebrate childhood. These fleeting years are filled with wonder and innocence, and a concert captures that perfectly. A costume that sparks imagination, a song that lights up a little face, a wave from the stage that melts a parent/guardian's heart, these are moments that cannot be measured but will be treasured forever.

As pianist Ignacy Jan Paderewski once said: "The very essence of art is joy" and that is exactly what Pre-School concerts bring, joy in its purest form. For children, parents/guardians and teachers alike, they are not just events on the calendar; they are milestones in the journey of growing up, memories that will live on long after the stage lights dim.



Enhancing our standing as a leading independent, co-educational Christian school.

The Benefits of Pre-School Concerts

- **Confidence** – Children discover courage in stepping onto a stage and sharing their voice.
- **Life Skills** – From listening and following cues to expressing themselves, concerts nurture skills they use daily.
- **Memory and Patience** – Repetition teaches them to remember songs, lines and routines while waiting their turn.
- **Teamwork and Belonging** – Each child learns they are part of something bigger and that every role matters.

Get ready for more than just a performance. It will be an unforgettable experience filled with laughter, pride and wonder. Watch as your little one discovers bravery they did not know they had, shines in ways that surprise you and creates memories that will warm your heart for years to come.

This year's concert might just be the moment your child finds a love for music, movement or simply believing in themselves. Be ready to cheer, to smile and to be amazed, because the magic of childhood is about to take centre stage!

We look forward to seeing you at our **Pre-School Christmas Concert**, which will be held on **Monday the 10th of November, Wednesday the 12th of November and Friday the 14th of November**. The Pre-School staff are currently in the planning and preparation stages, and we cannot wait to share the magic of this special event with you.



Mrs Charmaine Janse Van Rensburg
GRADE 0 TEACHER | LEMUR CLASS

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Tiny Triumphs: Big Wins from Our Little Stars!

GOLF

Congratulations to **Joshua McDonald**, from the Zebra Class, who played at the **Houghton Golf Course**.

Joshua played an excellent round, finishing in **5th place** in his age group with an impressive **score of 54**.

Well done, Joshua, we are so proud of your dedication and skill on the course!



BE IN OUR NEXT ISSUE!

Has your child excelled outside of the classroom? We would love to hear about it!

Send an email to nduplessis@stdunstons.co.za with photos and a short description of the event so we can include it in the next Newsletter.

EQUESTRIAN

Gemma Piper, from the Meerkat Class proudly completed her first **Equestrian Show** on Sunday, 14 September at Arion.

Riding her favourite horse, Ladybug, Gemma took part in the **20cm jumps** and delivered a wonderful performance.

What an exciting start to her equestrian journey!

Well done, Gemma! We are so proud of you.



DANCING

A big congratulations to **Sarah Williams**, in the Bee Class, who shone at the **Legends Just Dance Competition**.

Sarah received **Gold** medals for her **Group Dance**, **Class Solo** and for Consistency in her dancing (age 2-5). She went on to be named the **Overall Section Winner** for ages 2-5 and was crowned the **Champion** of Dance in her age category.

What an incredible achievement, well done, Sarah!



Happy Birthday!

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THRIVE 2025**



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ST DUNSTAN'S COLLEGE

GRADE 0000 - GRADE 12

OPEN DAY

08H00 - 12H00

SATURDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER

**TWENTY
THRIVE 2025**

Grow, Flourish and Thrive.

(Ps 92:12, Prov 11:28b)

How Can You Get Involved?

Help us welcome new families by assisting with Open Day tours

nduplessis@stdunstans.co.za



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Dress to Express! Fun Days Ahead

Dress-up days

Friday, 24 October

Superhero Day

Monday, 1 December

Christmas Picnic



What's Happening When?

Events

Tuesday, 23 September

College Market Day | Grade 00 & 0

Wednesday, 24 September

Heritage Day | Public Holiday | NO Aftercare

Saturday, 27 September

Open Day

Monday, 6 October

Teacher Appreciation Day

Monday, 13 October

Grade 0 Graduation Photos

Thursday, 16 October

Wiggle & Wobble Book Show | School closes for Half-Term Break at 12:00

Tuesday, 21 October

Return from Half-Term Break

Friday, 24 October

Superhero Food Chain Day

Saturday, 1 November

Art Show at 09:00

Thursday, 6 November

Individual Christmas Concert Photos

Friday, 7 November

Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsals | Grandparents Invited | 09h30

Mon, Wed & Fri 10, 12 & 14 November

Christmas Concert | 09h30

Friday, 21 November

Grade 0000 - 1 | 2026 Orientation Welcome Day

Wednesday, 26 November

Grade 0 Graduation at 18:00

Wednesday, 3 December

School closes for end of Term 3 at 10:00 | Reports released



Waiting Class Roster

22 - 26 September	Munchkin Class
29 September - 3 October	Turtle Class
13 - 16 October	Rainbow Class
21 - 24 October	Bee Class
27 - 31 October	Hedgehog Class
3 - 7 November	Lemur Class

PEOPLE WHO *love* US CONCERT

KINDLY POP INTO
THE PRE-SCHOOL
RECEPTION TO
COLLECT YOUR
ORDERED USB



Parting Shot

