



NEWSLETTER NO: 36 of 2025

27 November 2025

Dear Parents

As this will be the final Newsletter for 2025, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all children, parents, staff and support staff for all their hard work and commitment during the year. A special thank you to the SGB and PTA for all the hours and effort put into Martin School. The excellent level of support and commitment from all the above stakeholders to our school is what makes Martin School stand out as a school of excellence in all areas. A great big THANK YOU to the Martin School Family.

SCHOOL CLOSSES/ REPORTS OUT

Reports will be handed out to learners on Wednesday, 10 December. Reports must be collected **by the learners** from their homeroom teacher **anytime** between 07:30 and 9:30. Learners must proceed directly to their class to collect reports and then leave immediately afterwards. Parents are asked to wait in their cars as they will not be allowed to accompany their children. Only the main parking area will be open on this day to allow for proper access control. (Except for Grade R learners who will use 2nd Avenue.) In order to reduce congestion in the parking area we have allowed for this two-hour collection period and immediate dismissal of learners after collection instead of just one collection time when school starts / finishes. (9 December will therefore be the last formal school day.) **No reports may be handed out earlier as per GDE instructions.** Reports not collected on this day can only be collected in the new year. **No reports will be handed out at the front office on this day.**

In the new school year, children are to report to the classrooms indicated on their reports.

AFTERCARE

Parents, please be advised that the school Aftercare will also close on 10 December for the holidays and will reopen when school starts.

PRIZE GIVING

Our Foundation Phase Prize Giving will be on Monday, 8 December in the morning and our Grade 4-7 Prize Giving will be on Monday evening, 8 December. Both functions will be by invitation only. Details will be sent with the invitations from Tuesday, 2 December to all invited learners/parents.

GRADE 7 VALEDICTORY ASSEMBLY/ FAREWELL

The Grade 7 Valedictory Assembly will be held on Tuesday, 9 December at 08:00 in the school hall. All Grade 7 parents are most welcome to attend. **Grade 7's must wear the correct summer uniform and have the correct hairstyles to be part of the Valedictory.** They will change into their swimming costumes/ civvies clothes after the Valedictory for their Farewell. Grade 7's are asked to donate their school uniforms and school bags/ sports bags to the 2nd hand shop on this day in order to assist needy families. **The Grade 7's will receive their reports at the end of this day, and it will therefore be their final day.**

TEXTBOOKS/ READERS LOST OR DAMAGED

Replacement cost for textbooks or readers that were damaged or lost by learners, and not paid for yet, will be added to the parent's school fee account in order for the school to purchase replacement books before the new year starts. **Textbooks for the new year will unfortunately not be issued to these learners until the replacement fees are paid.**

INTER HOUSE ATHLETICS

A final reminder of our Inter House Track Events tomorrow, 28 November. Athletes **and all other learners** may wear their black PE shorts and a T-shirt representing their house colours to cheer on their athletes. (Normal PE Golf shirts may also be worn but it creates more spirit to see exactly which house the learners belong to.)

Parents are welcome to come and watch on this day. Parents joining us are asked to please park in the main parking and then enter through the waiting area gate. Seating will be available on the far side of the stands (closest to the finish line) and there will also be a few chairs placed in certain areas around the track.

We ask parents not to come onto the field or track, especially the finish line as we need clear line of sight for our timekeepers and place judges. (It is also an Athletics SA rule that no parents may be on the field or finish area). We will start at approximately 08:15.

Although the **Tuckshop** will be open on this day for Grades 4-7 learners, it will only be for direct purchases and will only sell Hotdogs and Pies as food items apart from the normal crisps, flavoured water etc. The Grade R-3 children will unfortunately not be able to order/ purchase tuck on this day as the Tuckshop will be run from the staffroom and we do not want the little ones crossing the field to get tuck and then possibly get injured by senior athletes. We therefore ask the Foundation Phase parents to please pack lunch for this day. No KariApp orders can be done for this Friday. KariApp orders and normal Tuck orders will again be implemented from the following Monday.

NB: Children must bring their school bags with on this day in case the athletics gets cancelled due to rain.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

A final reminder to join us on Friday, 5 December 2025 for our annual Carols by Candlelight. The gates will open at 18:00 and the performance will start at 18:45. Bring a picnic blanket, your camping chair and your own festive treats to enjoy while watching the show. Please note: no food or drinks will be on sale and **no alcohol or pets** will be permitted. Please also note that teachers on duty will only look after participants therefore parents must accompany all other minor children and are responsible to look after their own children on the evening. Entry is free however a donation of non-perishable items for our families in need will be appreciated.

CUT OFF DATE- RECYCLING OF SCHOOL BOOKS

Parents who would like to keep their children's workbooks must please write a note to the class teacher by Friday, 5 December, requesting that the books be handed to the children on the last day of school and not be sent for recycling.

SCHOOL LEAVERS

Parents who have not yet advised the school that their children (Grade R – 6) will not be returning next year, must please do so in writing as soon as possible.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FOR INDIGENT FAMILIES- PLEASE

We ask any interested parents to PLEASE send some form of non-perishable food (tins of food) to the class teachers. We will make hampers for our indigent children who have been on the school feeding scheme in order for them to at least have something on the table during the festive season when we all enjoy feasts and festivities with our families.

FINAL WISHES FOR THE YEAR

May we take this opportunity to wish all our children, parents and staff a relaxing, joyous and blessed festive season. School will reopen on Wednesday, 14 January 2026.

Yours faithfully
H. THERON
PRINCIPAL