



# Kidz Chronicle

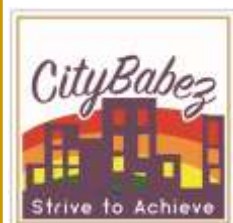
21st August 2026 CityKidz Pre & Primary School

Dear Parents/ Guardians

Edition 14 Term 3

## CityKidz Makes History: Number One in the 2026 Matific Olympiad

There are moments in the life of a school that become part of its history, moments that remind us what is possible when learners, educators, parents and the wider school community work together towards a common goal. For CityKidz, becoming number one in the 2026 Matific Olympiad is one of those extraordinary moments. It is a celebration of perseverance, participation, teamwork, commitment and, most importantly, a growing love for Mathematics. It represents the collective effort of our learners who logged on, attempted activities, solved problems, made mistakes, tried again and continued pushing themselves to reach new heights.





## What is Matific?

Matific is an interactive, game-based Mathematics learning platform that makes learning Mathematics fun, engaging and meaningful. It allows learners to develop their Mathematical understanding through interactive activities, problem-solving challenges, games and personalised learning experiences. The platform allows learners to practise at their own level while giving teachers valuable information about their progress and areas where additional support may be needed. The Matific Olympiad takes Mathematics learning to another level by combining education, fun and healthy competition.



## What Does It Take to Be Number One?



Being crowned number one among more than 100 schools across the SADC region requires much more than having a few top-performing learners. It takes whole-school participation, consistent practice, perseverance and teamwork. Every learner's contribution matters and success depends on learners remaining committed and continuing to challenge themselves throughout the competition. Behind every successful learner is also a dedicated team of teachers who encourage, motivate and monitor progress, together with supportive parents who encourage participation at home. Our number-one achievement is therefore a true reflection of collective effort, commitment and a strong school spirit.



To all our CityKidz learners who participated in the Matific Olympiad, we say a huge THANK YOU! Your enthusiasm, determination and willingness to challenge yourselves made this achievement possible. Whether you completed a few activities or worked tirelessly throughout the competition, every effort counted. To our wonderful teachers and entire staff, thank you for your unwavering commitment, encouragement and support. Your dedication in motivating learners, monitoring their progress and creating a culture of excellence has been invaluable. To our parents and families, thank you for your continued support. Thank you for encouraging your children, making time for Mathematics and partnering with the school throughout the competition. Your involvement has played a significant role in this success.



We are  
proud!!  
We are  
grateful!!  
We are  
CityKidz!!





## Spring Day

Spring Celebration – Get Ready for a Day of Fun!

Spring is almost here, and the excitement is building! Join us on 5 September for a wonderful day of fun, laughter, entertainment, and quality time with family and friends.

There will be something for everyone to enjoy, including:

- Delicious food and tempting treats
- Exciting jumping castles
- Live entertainment and music
- Fun-filled games and activities
- Plenty of opportunities to relax, connect, and enjoy the spring sunshine

Come along in your brightest spring colours, bring your family and friends, and help us create a day filled with happiness, community spirit, and wonderful memories.

**Save the date: 5 September 2026**

We can't wait to welcome spring together and celebrate with our school community. Bring your smiles, your energy, and your appetite for fun!

**Spring into Fun – We Look Forward to Celebrating With You!**



# HAPPY SPRING DAY

**Saturday 5th September**  
**08h30 to 15h30**

**Bring & Braai**  
**Entertainment**  
**Yummy Food**  
**Jumping Castles**  
**Music**  
**and so much more ...**

**R50.00 Per Person**  
**Children under 2 FREE!**

**Dress Code:**  
**Spring Colours**

**Purchase**  
**tickets in**  
**advance**



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**DON'T FORGET TO**  
**BUY YOUR TICKETS !!**



## GRADE 7 POETRY

### CHLOE BALCOMB: A POET WHO INSPIRES YOUNG VOICES

Chloe Balcomb is a poet and teacher from Sheffield who has a special gift for creating poetry that speaks directly to young people. Her poems create vivid "poetry portraits" that children across the world can identify with—whether she's writing about a boy who lip reads, as in her poem 'Listen', or capturing the spirit of tough but soft-hearted kids across the world in 'Leroy and Tyler'. Her work has appeared in numerous journals and she has published two pamphlet collections, *The Waney Edge* and *Upstart Jugglers*. Critics have praised her "finely observed and delicately wrought vignettes" that explore themes of identity and what it means to be alive.

Recently, Chloe led an online poetry workshop with Grade 7 learners and the experience was unforgettable. The learners thoroughly enjoyed the session as she guided them through the process of writing their own poems, helping them find their unique voices and express their thoughts creatively. The workshop was so inspiring that it encouraged many learners to continue writing poetry. One learner shared, *"I never thought I could write poetry but Chloe made it feel so natural and fun!"* Another added, *"Now I write poems in my journal every night."* By connecting with young people through her relatable poetry portraits, Chloe Balcomb proves that poetry is not just for adults—it's a powerful tool for self-expression that children everywhere can embrace.

#### Listen

Chloe Balcomb

The smallest of boys, so wonderfully earnest  
his delicate head clustered with curls.  
He'd seat himself directly in front of me  
watch me closely, as if I were wise  
or sure to deliver an important truth.

His writing was tiny and hard to decipher  
and though he seemed to pay attention  
my words and his work never quite matched.  
One day, when someone else was speaking  
I glanced across, caught him lip reading.



### Gr 7 Poetry

#### Lion

Bayanda Ntuli 7A

Big and dangerous, long legs, kills prey.  
Smells like red meat, roars that can be heard 8km away.  
Springbok, smooth runner, fast, too scared.  
If I see a lion, I must say my last words.  
I'm going to be lion food.

#### Love Birds Nomvuselelo Shoba 7C

Love birds sweet as honey, calm as a quiet sea  
Short legs, stubby wings, tiny and cute as a peanut  
As they twitter away people stop to listen  
It's like they're saying, "I love you too"  
Their feathers are soft as a blanket  
Love birds, yellow as the sun.



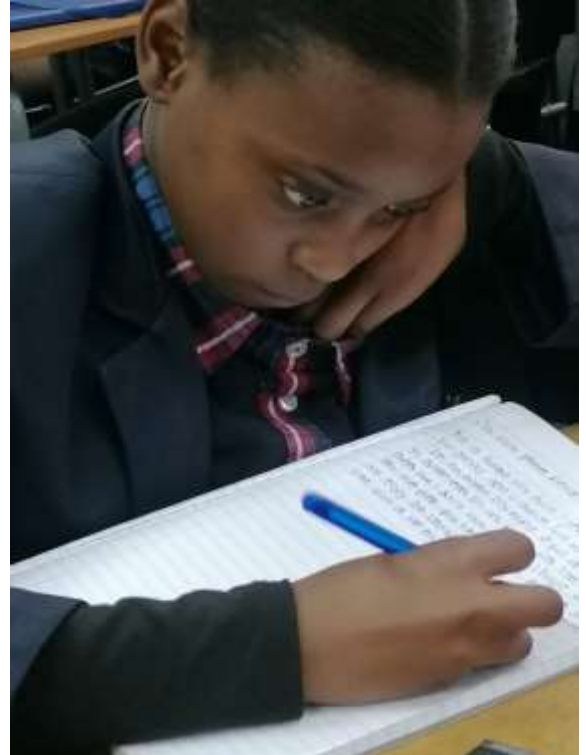


### **If I was a hummingbird      Chinenye Aijbogie 7C**

A light sweet hum, an angelic voice on a breezy summer's day  
 Beautiful light peach against gorgeous orange and navy blue  
 An ambitious coat with a warm heart inside  
 Flying high and free, I stare with a thought – Imagine if I was a hummingbird?  
 I'd flit, float and ski across the sky  
 Sing sweet hums that echo on the wind  
 In a rose-water summer mist I'd glide across the rushing waters  
 Breeze through summer days on a hum.

### **Wolf      Nkosizile Mpofu 7B**

Wolf hunts under the beautiful moon light,  
 Runs, dog-like. All calm with teeth hard as rock  
 Wolf with keen smell waits patiently.  
 What a majestic animal – brave, strong, relaxed, no fear of danger.  
 Wolf moves at the speed of light, smoothly flowing with nature, white against snow,  
 black on hilltops, like a knight in shining armour calling out its determination to win  
 the hunt.  
 Boom – claws clash - danger. At the close of the fight, the wolf stands tall, a bright  
 victory smile slashed across its face.





## Market Day

**CityKidz**  
Strive to Achieve

# GRADE 7 MARKET

## SPRING DAY EVENT

### Sweet Treats

### Crafty Creations

# SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH

08H30- 15H30 PM

**GRADE 7 SPOTS AVAILABLE!**

- ★ HANDMADE GOODS
- ★ SWEET & TREATS
- ★ GRADE 7 ENTREPRENEURS
- ★ SUPPORT THEM PLEASE

Join us on 05 September for a Market Day filled with innovation, energy and young entrepreneurial talent.



## Grade 7 Market Day: Unleash Your Inner Entrepreneur!

Get ready for an exciting day of creativity, business, and entrepreneurial spirit! Our **Grade 7 Market Day** on **05 September** gives learners the opportunity to step into the shoes of young entrepreneurs and discover what it takes to turn an idea into a successful business.

Market Day is more than simply buying and selling. It is a chance for learners to **explore their entrepreneurial skills, test their business ideas, and discover whether the world of business — including informal business — is something they could see themselves pursuing in the future.**

From planning their products and working out prices to interacting with customers and managing their money, learners will experience the many different sides of running a small business.

### Marketing Matters!

One of the most important lessons of Market Day will be learning that **a great product needs great marketing.**

Learners will need to think carefully about what will attract customers to their stalls. Eye-catching posters, creative displays, appealing packaging, catchy slogans and enthusiastic sales pitches could make all the difference. They will need to consider:

- **What will make people stop at their stall?**
- **What products will buyers actually want?**
- **How should they price their products?**
- **How can they make their stall stand out from the competition?**
- **How can they turn a curious visitor into a customer?**

Whether they choose to sell delicious treats, refreshing drinks, handmade creations, fun games or another creative product, the challenge is to identify what people want and find an exciting way to sell it.

### More Than Just a Market

Market Day encourages learners to develop valuable skills such as **creativity, communication, teamwork, problem-solving, budgeting, decision-making and confidence.** Most importantly, it allows them to learn through doing.

Perhaps our Grade 7 learner will discover a passion for business that grows into tomorrow's successful entrepreneur!

**Grade 7's, start thinking, planning and creating. Your customers are waiting — and the best business idea could be the one that makes everyone stop, look and buy!**



## Grade 5 Lesedi

Grade 5 learners discover the richness of South African Culture at Lesedi Cultural Village

The Grade 5 learners were delighted to wake up to a sunny, but icy winter's morning for their much-anticipated trip to Lesedi Cultural Village, in the North West Province.

The visit began with an energetic traditional dance display. The lively drumming, rhythmic movements and beautiful traditional clothing provided an exciting introduction to the cultural experience that lay ahead. The learners then had the opportunity to visit the different cultural villages representing the Zulu, Xhosa, Pedi and Basotho people. As they moved from one village to another, they learned about traditional homes, customs and ways of life of these communities.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the day was seeing our learners make connections between what they were experiencing and what they have already learned at school. Their Social Sciences - History lessons became tangible as they were able to experience the richness of South African culture for themselves. They enthusiastically shared their knowledge with the guides and with one another, piecing together information from their classroom learning and their experiences at Lesedi.

The educational experience continued with an informative film, followed by an interactive drumming session. There were plenty of smiles and some very enthusiastic drumming. After all the exploring and activity, everyone was ready for a delicious traditional lunch of wors, pap and sauce. It was the perfect meal to enjoy together after such a busy morning.

We were incredibly proud of the learners throughout the day. Their excellent behaviour and exemplary manners were a wonderful reflection of our school. They interacted positively with the tour guides, showed genuine interest in the activities and represented CityKidz with pride. Our visit to Lesedi Cultural Village was a memorable day filled with sunshine, laughter, learning and culture. It was a day that our Grade 5 learners will remember for many years to come.







# Chatterbox Challenge

*Find Your Voice. Share Your Story. Inspire Others.*

## Purpose

The Chatterbox Challenge encourages participants to develop confidence, communication skills, and critical thinking through prepared speeches and oral presentations.

## Objectives

- Build confidence in public speaking.
- Improve speech preparation and delivery skills.
- Encourage creativity and persuasive communication.
- Develop leadership and presentation abilities.

Create a supportive environment for sharing ideas.

## How It Works

### Challenge Categories

#### Prepared Speech

Participants prepare a 2–4 minute speech on a chosen topic.

Topics may be informative, motivational, persuasive, or storytelling.

#### Inspirational Talk

Share a personal experience, lesson learned, or message of encouragement.

#### Persuasion Station

Convince the audience about an idea, cause, or solution to a problem.

#### Storyteller's Corner

Present an engaging story with strong vocal expression and audience connection.

#### Youth Voice Challenge

Focus on issues affecting young people and proposed solutions.

**Your voice matters. The stage is yours.**

## Possible Annual Theme

**Chatterbox Challenge 2026: "Speak Up. Stand Out. Spark Change."**

To make the challenge more memorable, you could add a social impact component where every speech must not only inform or entertain but also propose a positive action or solution for the community. This gives participants a chance to practice leadership as well as public speaking.



## Challenge Format

### Round 1: School/Classroom Level

- Participants present their speeches.
- Top performers advance.

### Round 2: Community/School Finals

- Longer speeches.
- Live audience and judging panel.

### Round 3: Grand Chatterbox Championship

Finalists compete for the title of **Chatterbox Champion**.

## Awards

- Chatterbox Champion Trophy
- Best Inspirational Speaker
- Best Storyteller
- Most Improved Speaker
- Audience Choice Award

Certificates for all participants

## Suggested Themes

- My Dream for the Future
- A Problem Worth Solving
- The Power of Kindness
- Technology and Society
- Leadership Starts With Me
- If I Could Change One Thing
- Lessons From Failure

A Voice That Inspired Me

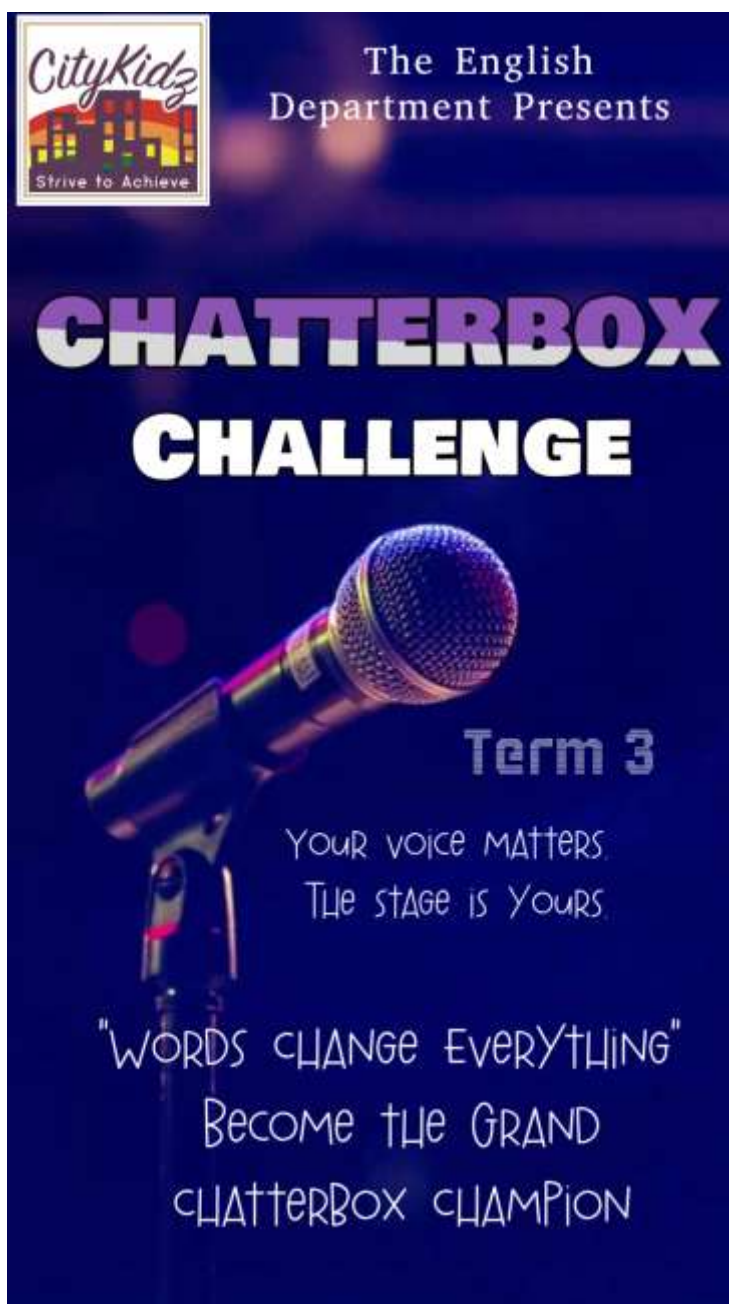
## Sample Promotional Message

### Are you ready to be heard?

Join the **Chatterbox Challenge**, a public speaking competition designed to help young people build confidence, sharpen communication skills, and inspire others through the power of words.

Whether you're a natural speaker or speaking in public for the first time, this is your opportunity to step up, speak out, and shine.

The competition will take place in the 4th Term but preparation will continue in Term 3.





# A Book in Every Bag

## A Book in Every Bag, A Story in Every Heart

One of the simplest ways to nurture a lifelong love of learning is through reading. This term, we encourage all learners to participate in our "Book in Bag" initiative by bringing a reading book to school every day.

A book in a learner's bag is more than just an item on a checklist—it is an invitation to explore new worlds, discover different perspectives, and develop important language and thinking skills. Whether a learner enjoys adventure stories, factual books, mysteries, comics, or biographies, every page read contributes to their growth as a reader and learner.

Reading regularly helps to improve vocabulary, comprehension, concentration, creativity, and confidence. It also develops empathy as children learn about characters, experiences, and cultures beyond their own. Most importantly, reading creates opportunities for learners to develop a habit that will benefit them throughout their lives.

Our Book in Bag initiative encourages learners to make the most of spare moments during the school day. Whether they are waiting for an activity to begin, enjoying a quiet break, or participating in a class reading session, having a book readily available means they are always prepared to read.

Parents can support this initiative by helping their child choose age-appropriate books that match their interests. A book that sparks curiosity and enjoyment is far more likely to be opened and read. Encouraging a few minutes of reading at home each day and talking about stories together can further strengthen a child's reading journey.

As we embrace our school theme of courage this term, we encourage learners to be courageous readers—trying new genres, tackling more challenging books, and sharing their love of reading with others. Every great reader begins with a single page, and every great adventure begins with opening a book.

Let's work together to ensure that every learner has a book in their bag and a story waiting to be discovered.





Let's get reading !

# BOOK IN BAG

Join Our Reading Adventure.  
You just need ONE reading book in your  
bag,

"A book is like a garden carried  
in the pocket."



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## Learning About Time Through Creativity

At CityKidz, learning comes to life when children have the opportunity to create, explore and discover. Our learners recently turned a lesson about telling time into a fun and creative hands-on experience.

As part of their learning, learners were challenged to create their own clocks at home using recycled and everyday materials. With the support of their families, they transformed simple materials into colourful, imaginative and unique timepieces.

When the clocks arrived at school, the classroom came alive with excitement as learners proudly presented their creations. They then used their homemade clocks to practise reading the hour, telling the time and moving the hands to show different times.

Beyond developing an understanding of time, the activity encouraged **creativity, problem-solving, family participation and environmental awareness** through the use of recycled materials.

Each clock was different, reflecting the creativity and personality of its young maker. The activity showed that meaningful learning does not always need to happen through textbooks—it can happen through making, experimenting and learning together.

Who knew telling time could be so much fun? Our little clock-makers certainly proved that learning is at its best when children can create, explore and enjoy the journey.







## How to Grow Your General Knowledge

General knowledge helps us understand the world around us and makes learning new things easier. The best part? You can build your knowledge every day!

- ♦ Read a little every day – Read books, newspapers, magazines or age-appropriate online articles. Try to learn one new fact each day.
- ♦ Explore the world – Learn about different countries, cultures, languages, landmarks and traditions.
- ♦ Be curious about nature – Find out about animals, plants, oceans, weather and the environment.
- ♦ Ask questions – Don't be afraid to ask Why? How? When? Curious minds learn the most!
- ♦ Learn something new each week – Choose a topic you know very little about and spend some time discovering more.
- ♦ Watch educational programmes – Documentaries and educational videos can make learning fun and bring new topics to life.
- ♦ Play quizzes and trivia games – These are a fun way to test what you know and discover what you don't know yet.
- ♦ Use a map or globe – Pick a country and learn its capital, language, flag and one interesting fact.
- ♦ Talk to people – Parents, grandparents, teachers and friends all have different experiences and knowledge to share.

 Keep a "Did You Know?" notebook – Write down interesting facts you discover. At the end of the year, you'll be amazed at how much you've learned!

★ Remember:

You don't have to learn everything at once. A few minutes of learning every day can add up to a lot of knowledge over time!





## Spelling Bee Preparation

The excitement is building as we prepare for our upcoming **InterSen Phase Spelling Bee**! Learners are encouraged to begin studying their Spelling Bee word lists as soon as possible. Regular practice at home and at school will help improve spelling, pronunciation, vocabulary, and confidence.

Over the next few weeks, learners in each grade will take part in class and grade-level selections. The top spellers from each grade will be chosen to represent their grade in the InterSen Phase Spelling Bee competition.

We encourage all learners to give their best effort, practise consistently, and enjoy the challenge of expanding their vocabulary. We wish everyone the very best as they prepare, and we look forward to an exciting and competitive Spelling Bee!





## SkyeKid at Vulpro

### How Research Helps Save Vultures

At VulPro, research is an important part of protecting vultures. While rescuing injured birds and helping them return to the wild is exciting, researchers also need to understand **why vultures are in danger and how we can keep them safe**.

VulPro collects lots of information about vultures. Scientists study their nests, breeding habits, food sources and where they fly. Some vultures are fitted with **GPS trackers**, which allow researchers to follow their movements and learn which areas are important to them.

But there is so much information to study that it can be difficult for people to look at it all by themselves. This is where **artificial intelligence (AI)** can help! VulPro is developing a special AI tool called **Carys** to help researchers find important patterns in the data.

For example, the information could help scientists understand:

- Which types of nests are most successful.
- How weather conditions, such as drought, affect vultures.
- Where vultures travel to find food.
- What conditions help chicks survive.
- Which power lines are dangerous for vultures.

One important example happened during a recent VulPro research trip to the **Eastern Cape**. The team worked with Eskom to investigate power lines that could be dangerous to vultures. Using GPS information collected from Cape Vultures, VulPro had identified certain power lines as high-risk areas.

When the team visited one of these areas, they discovered **about 30 Cape Vultures using the very power lines that their research had identified as dangerous!** This is a great example of how research can turn information into action. By understanding **where vultures go and what dangers they face**, conservationists can work to make these areas safer.

Research also helps VulPro improve its breeding programmes. Information collected from wild vultures can help the team understand the best conditions for vultures in their care.

### Why does this matter?

Vultures play a very important role in nature. They help clean up dead animals and keep ecosystems healthy. By using **curiosity, science, technology and teamwork**, VulPro is working towards a future where vultures and people can live safely side by side.

**Every question we ask, every piece of data we collect and every vulture we track can help us protect these amazing birds!**





### A Little Help Goes a Long Way!

A huge **thank you** to everyone who continues to support our **Pet Food Drive**! Your generous donations will make a real difference to animals who are waiting for their forever homes.

We must also take a moment to recognise **Paws Rehoming** and the wonderful work they do. The dedicated person Claude works tirelessly to rescue, care for and rehome animals in need, giving them a second chance at a happy and loving life.

By donating pet food, you are helping provide more than just a meal — you are helping an animal feel safe, cared for and loved while they wait for their forever family.

**Thank you for helping us support Paws Rehoming and making a difference, one paw at a time!**





## After Care

### AFTERCARE LEARNERS SAVE SCHOOL MURALS WITH BOTTLE TOPS

On Fun Friday, the Aftercare learners took on a special mission to save the school's bottle-top murals. Some of the murals had started falling apart, with bottle tops coming loose and creating an untidy mess. Learners carefully removed the loose bottle tops from the damaged murals and used them to fill up and complete another mural that was still in good shape. *"It was like a puzzle—we had to match the colours and make sure everything fit perfectly,"* said one enthusiastic learner. Working together in the warm sunshine, the children carefully pried off each loose top, sorted them by colour and pressed them firmly into place on the mural that needed finishing. The job required patience and teamwork but the learners were determined to restore the artwork to its former glory.

The project turned into more than just fixing murals—it became a wonderful opportunity to tidy up the school and enjoy the outdoors. As the learners worked, they chatted and laughed, taking pride in making our school look beautiful again. *"I love that we could save the murals instead of just throwing the bottle tops away,"* shared another learner. *"It feels good to see our school looking neat and colourful."* The sunshine made the work even more enjoyable, and by the time they finished, both the restored mural and the school grounds looked much tidier. The Aftercare learners proved that with a little creativity, teamwork and effort, even small actions can make a big difference. As one child summed it up: *"We didn't just fix a mural—we made our school a happier place."*





## Behaviour Bank Awards Term 3

### Merits for Term 3 Weekending 21 August: Year 2026

| Grade    | Name      | Surname   | Grade     | Name         | Surname    |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Grade RR | Nathan    | Dube      | Grade Ra  | Mary         | Chिताuro   |
| Grade Rb | William   | Masuku    | Grade Rc  | Rorisang     | Dinake     |
| Grade 1A | Luthando  | Ndimande  | Grade 1B  | Uyabusankosi | Khanye     |
| Grade 1C | Bella     | Banda     | Grade 1D  | Jediah       | Murenha    |
| Grade 2A | Amahle    | Siwela    | Grade 2B  | Majesty      | Khumalo    |
| Grade 2C | Fezokuhle | Ndlovu    | Grade 2D  | Nhlamulo     | Ngcobo     |
| Grade 3A | Jhene     | Hlanguza  | Grade 3B  | Nonceba      | Isaac      |
| Grade 3C | Slindile  | Maseko    | Grade 3D  | Imaan        | Ndlovu     |
| Grade 4A | Samkeliso | Dube      | Grade 4B  | Luba         | Matsanura  |
| Grade 4C | Masigcobe | Holby     | Grade 4D  | Kairo        | Korovedzai |
| Grade 5A | Kgomo     | Ramonyai  | Grade 5B  | Lulama       | Mhlanga    |
| Grade 5C | Phumelela | Maphiri   | Grade 5D  | Sina         | Masebu     |
| Grade 6A | Karabo    | Mfene     | Grade 6B  | Siphosethu   | Dlamini    |
| Grade 6C | Lesedi    | Ralebepa  | Grade 6D  | Sinomso      | Nompunga   |
| Grade 7A | Hope      | Makgopa   | Grade 7B  | David        | Okonkwo    |
| Grade 7C | Brandon   | Lukhongwa | CityBabez | Jamal        | Longwe     |



| Monday                        | Tuesday     | Wednesday   | Thursday    | Friday                 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 24/08                         | 25/08       | 26/08       | 27/08       | 28/08                  |
| Public Holiday<br>Woman's Day | CASS FP /IP | CASS FP /IP | CASS FP /IP | CASS FP /IP            |
| Monday                        | Tuesday     | Wednesday   | Thursday    | Friday                 |
| 31/08                         | 01/09       | 02/09       | 03/09       | 04/08                  |
| CASS FP /IP                   | CASS FP /IP | CASS FP /IP | CASS FP /IP | SPRING DAY<br>TOMORROW |



### General Knowledge Question

**Who is Mickey Mouse's loyal dog?**

*Answer to the question in our last newsletter.*

Which country won the 2026 Fifa World Cup—SPAIN



There is not a particle of life  
which does not bear poetry  
within it.

Gustave Flaubert



**basic education**

Department:  
Basic Education  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Registration number  
2007/014450/08



*CityKidz Pre & Primary School is  
Accredited by Umalusi, Council for  
Quality Assurance in General and  
Further Education and Training—  
Accreditation number  
18 SCH01 00576*

## SPELLING BEE

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| ghost       | hailed       |
| gigantic    | haunches     |
| glimpse     | havoc        |
| gluttony    | hawker       |
| gorgeous    | headquarters |
| government  | heckle       |
| graduate    | hectic       |
| graffiti    | hedge        |
| grandparent | heed         |
| grapple     | helicopter   |



*Warm Regards*

*Ms S Reynolds*

**PRINCIPAL**

