



The Newberry News

What's in this issue:

- Message from the Head
- Cambridge & OISESA feedback
- Out and About
- Winter Art & Music Festival
- Good News Stories
- Sports Talk
- Lourensford Experiences

Message from the Head of Newberry

Dear Newberry community,

Welcome to the first edition of our Newsletter!

As shared in the beginning of the year, our aim as a school is to showcase what is possible through quality, authentic Montessori and Cambridge **education**, offered within a healthy **environment** through real-life learning **experiences**.

Although our primary aim through **education** is to equip our learners with a lifelong love of learning, critical thinking skills and personal development as opposed to being overly focused on academic performance, we have been able to celebrate fantastic outcomes together with our Cambridge learners. You will be able to read more about the Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards on Page 2, where three of our learners were recognised for their top Cambridge grades in South Africa. Another encouragement for us this term came by way of a 3-day quality assurance visit from OISESA, where we received outstanding feedback for all categories, and were encouraged to share more of what is working in our model of education with the wider education community (Page 2).

We are also very excited about various developments over the past term to provide our learners with a healthy, prepared **environment**. As many who attended the recent Art & Music Festival may have noticed, a number of buildings on our upper campus are now in use for our growing school, and planning is underway for our long-term campus development plan that is truly learner-centred; we are looking forward to sharing this with you in the coming months!

You will also see examples of rich **experiences** over the past term for learning and growing in different contexts - from enriching trips and camps that our learners helped to plan, to our first (highly popular) Art & Music festival and a growing selection of sports on offer.

Another notable part of the Newberry experience is being part of the Lourensford community - an introduction to what is on offer (and a few ideas for the upcoming holidays) can be found on Page 6. In addition to these exciting activities on the farm, we are also very excited to be supporting the Lourensford creche through the Indaba Institute's CoRE programme.

Our hope is that as you read through this short highlight reel from Term 2, you will be left feeling inspired to be part of the Newberry community and our vision.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday!



Alistair



Cambridge & OISESA feedback

Cambridge Outstanding Learner Awards

At an event hosted at the Two Oceans Aquarium (Cape Town) on the 18th May 2023 - 131 students across South Africa received Cambridge Outstanding Learner Awards, for the 2022 exams.



Newberry is pleased to announce that 3 of our students were recognised and received awards for the following:

- **Tertius** (Top in South Africa for IGCSE Spanish as a Foreign Language)
- **Indiana** (High Achievement for IGCSE Italian as a Foreign Language)
- **Axel** (High Achievement for AS French Language)



Pictured above from left to right: Liezl (Head of Cambridge - Newberry), Tertius, Alistair (Head - Newberry), Indiana, Pete (Deputy Head - Newberry)
Axel was unavailable for the award ceremony

Congratulations!

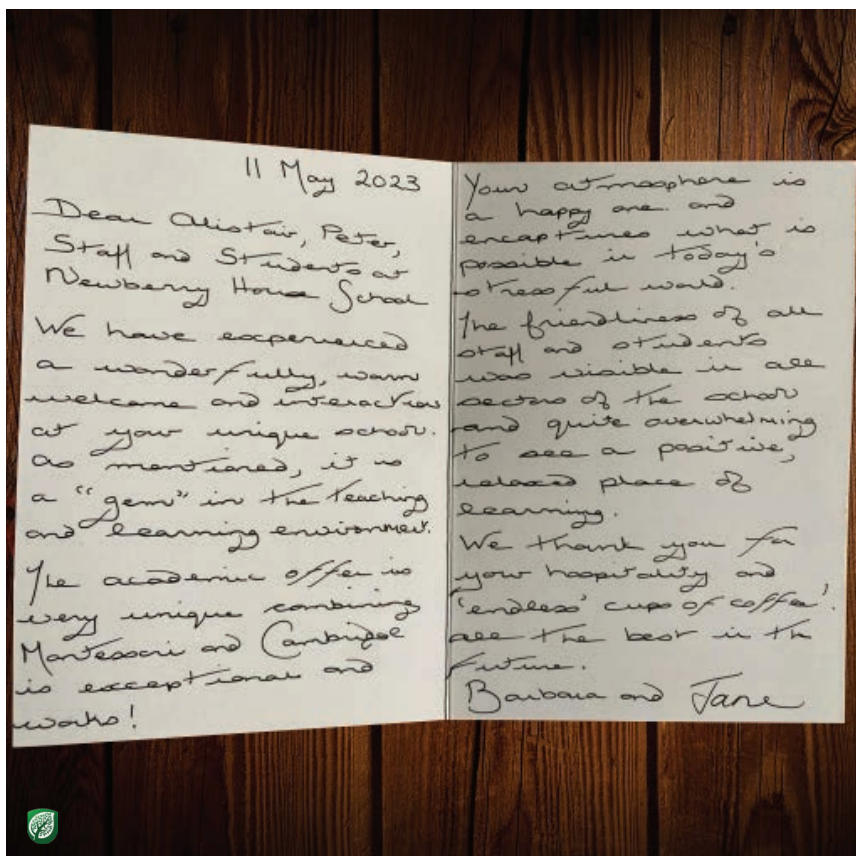
OISESA visit and feedback

We had a very positive 3-day quality assurance visit from OISESA (The Office of Independent Schools Evaluations, Southern Africa), in May 2023.

The preliminary reports confirmed that Newberry is consistently meeting expectations for all categories, with the Teaching & Learning, Leadership and Staff categories receiving the highest score that OISESA generally agrees to, which they noted is quite rare.

We were also left with a very encouraging note from the evaluators (shown here on the left).

Thank you to all our learners, parents and staff who participated in surveys and focus groups, and for what is consistently done on a daily basis to make these outcomes possible.





Out and About

Middle School visit - Babylonstoren

We are currently in the process of designing a new vegetable garden, with the aim of supplying the school and community with fresh produce.

To gain greater understanding, Middle School visited Babylonstoren to learn from the experts in their beautiful gardens. The outing was a wonderful, experiential, and practical outing for all our teenagers.

A huge thank you to the team at Babylonstoren for a superb day!



High School visit - Fruitways

The HS visited Fruitways in Grabouw. Fruitways has mechanised a large portion of their pre-sorting, sorting, and packing using Robotics, AI and even Departmental officials checking exports. They are leaders in adopting advanced technologies and techniques, using Italian machines with software from the Netherlands.

From logistics and engineering to lab tests and forklift drivers, there was SO much to learn and observe. The high schoolers even got to package the apples themselves and discard a reject down the shoot. This was a memorable outing.

Thank you, Fruitways!



Upper Elementary Camp

Our Upper Elementary learners attended their annual camp from 8 – 11 May 2023, at Soetwater in Kommetjie.

They enjoyed engaging in night walks along the beach, rock pool exploration, obstacle and survival courses, creative concerts, and a visit to the Raptor Centre. Great fun was had by all!



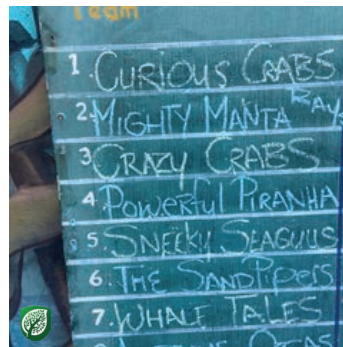
"I learned about the ocean's ecosystems, as well as the birds of prey at the raptor center, where we went inside the cages."

- CALLUM



"My favourite part of camp was our beach walks, especially the one at night."

- KAITLYN



"I like to try new things, so I enjoyed crawling through an underground tunnel, where you needed to find your way out to the other side."

- JAIME





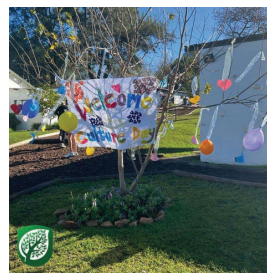
Winter Art and Music Festival

On the 10th June 2023, we had our first in-house Winter Art & Music Festival. It was a wonderful day of inspiration, beauty, movement and fun.

Through the use of interactive workshops, students, parents and teachers were encouraged to participate alongside each other and get hands-on experience with the various activities on offer, including Drama, Music, Percussion, Chess, Tai Chi and Debating.

A wonderful exhibition of artwork from Pre-primary, Elementary, Middle and High School was displayed throughout the school and the day finished off with an informal picnic and live music performed by our students, parents and teachers.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this day a great success!



Good News Stories

Au revoir, Nathan

The Mattio family relocated to SA so that Nathan could attend Newberry. They have returned to France at the end of Term 2, so that he can complete his final year of school in France, however, he leaves us as a changed young man.

The note that his father, Claude, sent us (pictured above) is a powerful testament that we are hopefully on track with our mission - to showcase what is possible through authentic Montessori and Cambridge education - both in the lives of individuals and families, as well as on a bigger scale.

Hello,

We will leave South Africa on June 19 with very beautiful memories of this period of life. We will have learned some great positive things from discovering your culture, new ways of life and another way of thinking. On a pedagogical level, Nathan is now happy to go to school, takes pleasure in learning. As you know, the learning environment is the most important to create the favorable conditions for learning and Newberry brought it. Nathan would like to thank the whole group of teachers for their listening, their empathy and the attention given.

We will keep very good memories of your welcome and of your school which is one step ahead in the way of seeing education. We wish you the best.

Isabelle, Nathan et Claude

Primadonna attends CoRE

Primadonna Mabokela, one of our Toddler Guides, is busy with the Indaba Institute's Community-Rooted Education (CoRE) course as a Facilitator-in-training. CoRE is aimed at empowering Early Childhood Development (ECD) providers with Montessori principles, to help bring Montessori to their environments.

We are pleased that the local creche on Lourensford Estate will also be sending one of their educators on the course, whom Primadonna will be mentoring. We believe that this will be the start of a very exciting collaboration between Newberry and the Lourensford creche.





Sports Talk

Mountain Biking

3x3x3 Race

To wrap up our second term, we organized our first 3x3x3 MTB race. The event was filled with excitement as students, teachers, and parents enthusiastically participated in racing along the muddy trails, which were constructed with the assistance of our students.

Excited supporters cheered their teams home and a market was held to offer sustenance for hungry riders.

A great time was had by everyone!



Trail Running

We are very appreciative of the opportunity we have to train in a stunning environment!

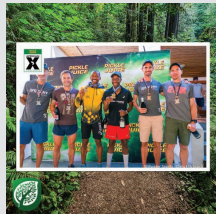
Newberry was also well-represented by our enthusiastic trail runners in the Boland Cross Country league over the past term.



George MUT



Newberry was well-represented at the Mountain Ultra Trail (MUT) event in George, which is part of the UTMB World Series. Two of our trail-running facilitators participated - our Head, Alistair Green, who won his age category in the 57km race and Brett Nattrass, also a Newberry parent, who finished 3rd in the same.



Well done also to Louw Burger, our Middle School Science educator, who completed the 42km course in very muddy conditions!



Alistair and Brett also competed under the name Team Newberry in the 3-day African X event in March, where they finished 3rd in the men's vet category.

We are proud to have these leaders "blazing the trails" for our students!



Lourensford Experiences

Lourensford is launching a super exciting competition!

Join them during June or July and stand a chance to win a collective first prize to the value of R8000, 2nd prize valued at R5000 or 3rd prize valued at R2000.

It is as simple as collecting your LOURENSFORD WINTER PASSPORT from the tasting room. Go around to each business on the farm to collect a stamp or sticker and on completion, deliver it back to the tasting room for the lucky draw that will take place on 1 August 2023.

You are not required to buy anything to win and you also do not have to complete your passport in one day.

This is a fantastic opportunity to explore our Lourensford community over the upcoming school holidays!

Prizes include offerings from all entities on the farm, including (but not limited to) wine, spa treatments, restaurant vouchers, Wedgewood Hamper, art, Clay pigeon shooting packages, Padel sessions, Life Retreat membership and so much more! Full details on the back of the passport.



Included in the grand prize worth R13 570.

Entity	1st prize	Value
Lourensford Tasting Room	6 bottles of wine	R 950
Life Retreat Wellness	3 month membership	R 1 500
Wellness in the Winelands	90min pamper session for 1	R 750
Ultimate Putt	Free game for 1	R 80
Artjamming	Paint & sip voucher	R 385
Nicola Jane	Lourensford t-shirt	R 395
The Coffee Company	2 x Brewing technique Workshop vouchers	R 440
Clay Pideon Adventures	2 x Bond packages	R 1 800
Ghenwa's Culinary Club	Voucher for Mezze platter for 2	R 600
Olio Store	Shop voucher	R 500
Padel Hub	4 x 60 min session, racket rental included	R 520
The Millhouse Kitchen	Voucher	R 500
Wedgewood Emprium	Premium hamper	R 900
The Art Curator	4 signed Tony Ribton artworks	R 3 500
Abru	2 x Beer tastings	R 750



Newberry House

MONTESSORI SCHOOL

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NewberryHouse



[newberryhousemontessori](https://www.instagram.com/newberryhousemontessori)