



20 July 2026

Circular 1/Term 3 – Newsletter

A very warm welcome back to all our Longmarket Girls' School families! I hope you enjoyed a restful holiday and had the opportunity to spend quality time with your loved ones. It is hard to believe that we are already beginning Term 3—a term filled with exciting opportunities, meaningful learning experiences, and many memorable moments for our girls.

As the winter season continues, I kindly ask that our girls arrive timeously at school, warmly dressed and ready for the day ahead. Beginning the morning warm, comfortable, and prepared helps them to remain focused, engaged, and ready to embrace every lesson, activity, and opportunity that awaits them.

Another exciting term lies ahead, and I would like to sincerely thank every parent and guardian for your continued support, trust, and partnership. Your encouragement and involvement make an invaluable difference to the success of our school community. Together, we create a nurturing environment where every girl feels valued, supported, challenged, and inspired to reach her full potential.

The strong partnership between home and school remains one of the greatest contributors to our girls' academic, social, emotional, and personal growth. I kindly ask that we continue to foster open, respectful, and honest communication throughout the term. Our strong partnership, built on trust, understanding, and mutual respect, enables us to provide the very best support for every learner.

Should you ever have a question, concern, or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact your daughter's class teacher or the appropriate member of staff. By addressing matters directly with the school, we are able to respond promptly, work collaboratively to find solutions, and ensure that every decision is made with the best interests of our girls at heart. We respectfully ask that concerns be shared with the school first, allowing us the opportunity to address them with fairness, understanding, and care.

Term 3 Curriculum Focus: Project-Based Learning

Term 3 is our Projects Term, where learners in the Intermediate and Senior Phases will take part in a variety of engaging project-based learning activities. These will include independent research, book-based projects, creative displays, and oral presentations, giving our girls the opportunity to apply their learning in meaningful and practical ways.

Project-based learning encourages creativity, critical thinking, confidence, organisation, and independent learning while helping learners make real-life connections with what they are taught in the classroom. We encourage parents and guardians to support and motivate their daughters throughout the term by providing guidance, encouragement, and a positive environment in which they can complete their projects independently and to the best of their ability. Working together, we can help our girls enjoy a rewarding and successful Projects Term.

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☎ 033 394 2581/2 Fax: 033 342 7469

Admissions: admissions@longmarketschool.co.za

✉ 380 Bulwer Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201



2026 Theme: "FACING YOUR GIANTS WITH CONFIDENCE"

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Looking Ahead to a Term of Exciting Events, Performances and Special Occasions

Term 3 is always one of the most exciting times of the year at Longmarket Girls' School! As our Projects Term, our girls are given countless opportunities to learn, explore and grow in a variety of environments. We believe that learning extends far beyond the classroom, with many of life's most valuable lessons being learnt through new experiences, teamwork, creativity, adventure, leadership and spending time together. These experiences play an important role in the holistic development of every girl, helping her grow in confidence, independence, resilience and character.

With the approval for educational outings, we are delighted to once again offer our senior girls the opportunity to attend their annual camps, while our junior girls look forward to exciting educational day excursions. Alongside these enriching experiences, the term is packed with memorable events and celebrations. We will celebrate Longmarket Girls' School's 136th Birthday with our much-loved Birthday Picnic, followed by National Women's Day Career Dress-Up Day, where our girls are encouraged to dream big by dressing as the careers, they aspire to pursue one day.

We are especially excited to host our very first Arts Exhibition and Choral Verse Day, where parents will have the opportunity to experience the creativity, artistic talent and expressive performances of our girls. As spring arrives, we will enjoy a colourful Spring Civvies Day, followed by School Photo Day and our Grade 7 Market Day, where our young entrepreneurs will showcase their business skills by planning, creating and selling their own products.

The excitement continues with our Athletics Days, before we come together for one of the highlights of the year—our much-anticipated Family Fun Day. This promises to be a wonderful day of laughter and fellowship as our girls enjoy the inflatable rides while families spend quality time together over a delicious braai, fresh salads and sweet treats. We will round off the term by proudly celebrating our rich South African heritage, as our girls wear their traditional attire and share some of their favourite cultural dishes, giving us all the opportunity to appreciate and celebrate the diversity that makes our school community so special.

There is so much to look forward to this term, and we cannot wait to share these experiences with our girls and families. Here's to a term filled with learning, discovery, friendship, celebration and memories that will last a lifetime.

Staff Changes: Farewells and New Beginnings

Unfortunately, from time to time, members of our teaching staff make the difficult decision to pursue new opportunities or embrace a new season in their lives.

While it is always sad to say goodbye to valued educators who have invested so much of themselves in the lives, learning, and growth of our girls, we understand that these decisions are often made in the best interests of their families, their future aspirations, or their personal wellbeing. Although we will miss them greatly, we celebrate the exciting new chapters that lie ahead for each of them.

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At the beginning of June, we bid a heartfelt farewell to Mrs Pillay, who emigrated to New Zealand. Mrs Pillay had been a cherished member of the Longmarket Girls' School family for just over ten years. For the first nine years of her journey with us, she faithfully nurtured and inspired our Grade 1 learners, laying the foundations for countless young girls as they embarked on their school careers. In her tenth year, she embraced the challenge of teaching Grade 3, where she continued to demonstrate the same passion, patience, and commitment that had become synonymous with her teaching. Over the past four years, she also served with distinction as one of our Foundation Phase Departmental Heads, leading with humility, wisdom, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Her calm leadership, willingness to support colleagues, and genuine care for every learner left a lasting imprint on our school community. Although we were deeply saddened to see her leave, we remained immensely grateful for the dedication, professionalism, and love she had poured into Longmarket Girls' School over the past decade. We wished Mrs Pillay and her family every happiness, success, and God's richest blessings as they began this exciting new chapter in New Zealand.

At the end of June, we also said goodbye to Miss Rolfe, who has accepted a Mathematics teaching position in Malaysia. At the end of this week, we will also bid farewell to Mrs Abdoola, who has accepted a teaching position abroad as well, and Mrs Berrington-Smith, who will embark on an exciting new chapter as she takes up a teaching post at a school in Uganda from the beginning of August.

A very special farewell was also extended to Mrs Aiyer, who, after twenty-two years of dedicated service at Longmarket Girls' School, chose to retire from her role as a Teacher Assistant and begin a well-deserved new chapter in her life. Together with her husband, she relocated to Cape Town to enjoy a slower pace of life and the many opportunities that retirement brings. After more than two decades of faithful service and unwavering commitment to the education and well-being of countless learners, we expressed our sincere gratitude to Mrs Aiyer for the lasting impact she made on our school community. Her wisdom, experience, kindness, and genuine care for those around her were deeply valued by colleagues, learners, and parents alike. We wished her every happiness, good health, and many treasured moments as she embraced this exciting new season of life.

To each of these remarkable teachers, we extend our heartfelt thanks for the care, dedication, and commitment they have shown to our learners and our school community. Though they leave our classrooms, they will always remain part of the Longmarket Girls' School family, and we wish each of them every success and abundant blessings in the journeys that lie ahead.

As we bid farewell to valued colleagues, we are equally delighted to embrace new beginnings within our teaching team. We are pleased to announce the movement of several existing staff members into new roles. Mrs Middelkoop will be moving to Grade 7, Miss Slater will take up the Grade 6 class, and Ms Duma, who has been serving as the locum Grade 6 teacher, will transition into our Music Department from August. We are also delighted to welcome new members to the Longmarket Girls' School family. Mrs Stretch joins our Grade 3 team, Miss Brits takes on the Grade 4 class, and Miss Yakoob joins us as our Coding and Robotics teacher.

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To each of you, whether stepping into a new role within our school or joining the Longmarket Girls' School family for the first time, we extend our warmest welcome. We trust that this new chapter will be both rewarding and fulfilling as you build meaningful relationships with our precious girls, inspire a love of learning, and contribute your unique gifts to our vibrant school community. We wish you every success and look forward to the positive impact you will make in the lives of our learners and the continued growth of Longmarket Girls' School.

From the Sports Department

As Term 2 came to an end, we proudly celebrated the achievements, dedication, and growth demonstrated by our learners across all sporting codes, with every opportunity allowing them to develop their skills and build lasting friendships. Throughout the term, our girls represented Longmarket Girls' School with pride, displaying commitment, teamwork, and sportsmanship in every sporting code.

Netball

Netball continued to be one of the highlights of the sporting calendar, with learners from both Junior Primary and Senior Primary sections participating enthusiastically throughout the term. Our players displayed remarkable commitment during practices and matches, showing significant improvement in passing, shooting, movement, and teamwork. Across all age groups, the girls embraced challenges, supported one another, and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship both on and off the court. Several teams participated in fixtures, festivals, and friendly matches throughout the term, gaining valuable match experience and growing in confidence with every game. The enthusiasm shown by our young players, and the leadership displayed by senior players, has been truly commendable.

Hockey

Hockey provided learners with many opportunities to develop new skills and challenge themselves throughout the season. While the season presented its challenges, our hockey players showed determination, resilience, and a willingness to learn. Coaches noted improvement in stick work, ball control, passing accuracy, game awareness, and teamwork. One of the most encouraging aspects was the positive attitude displayed by the girls. Their commitment to training, eagerness to improve, and support for one another reflected the true spirit of the school. The growth seen throughout the term has laid a strong foundation for future success, and the hockey programme continues to develop.

Cross-Country

Our cross-country runners demonstrated exceptional perseverance and determination this term. Through regular training sessions, learners worked hard to improve their endurance, pacing, and mental strength. Cross country teaches discipline, consistency, and resilience. Our runners embraced these qualities throughout the season. We are proud of every learner who challenged themselves and represented the school with courage and commitment.

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Chess

The Chess Club continued to grow this term, providing learners with opportunities to develop strategic thinking, concentration, and problem-solving skills. Our players showed enthusiasm during training and matches, learning patience, planning, and sportsmanship. It has been rewarding to see learners grow in confidence while enjoying healthy competition.

The value of Sports

Sports and extra-curricular activities play an important role in learner development. Beyond skills and competition, our girls are developing important life lessons such as teamwork, respect, leadership, discipline, perseverance, confidence, and sportsmanship. Every practice, match, race, and activity contribute to the growth of well-rounded young women prepared to face challenges on and off the field.

Thank you

We extend sincere gratitude to all coaches, staff members, parents, and supporters who contributed to the success of our Term 2 sports programme. Your encouragement, dedication, and commitment create meaningful opportunities for learners to grow, compete, and succeed. Most importantly, congratulations to all our girls for embracing every challenge with courage and determination, as they continue to live out our 2026 theme of facing their giants with confidence.

Ms K Sampson

Sports Department

Important Information from the Finance Department

As we begin the new term, we would like to thank our parents and guardians for your continued support in ensuring the smooth running of our school.

Please take note of the following important financial information:

School fees are determined annually in accordance with the provisions of the South African Schools Act (Act 84 of 1996).

We kindly remind parents that school fees are a legal obligation and play an essential role in providing quality education and maintaining the high standards of Longmarket Girls' School.

Should your school fee account fall into arrears by more than 60 days, and no payment arrangement has been made with the school, the account may be handed over to our attorneys, Stowell & Company, for collection in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the South African Schools Act.

We encourage parents experiencing financial difficulty to contact our Bursar before this becomes necessary so that suitable payment arrangements can be discussed.

Payment Arrangements

Parents who wish to make alternative payment arrangements are requested to contact our Bursar, in writing as early as possible. Please email bursar@longmarketschool.co.za, quoting your daughter's full name and school fee account number. Kindly note that payment arrangements are applicable for one academic year only and need to be renewed annually.

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School Fee Statements

School fee statements are emailed monthly to families whose accounts have an outstanding balance. If your account is fully paid or in credit, you will not receive a monthly statement. Should you require a statement at any stage, please email the Finance Office with your daughter's full name and account number.

To ensure that you receive all financial communication, please notify the school immediately of any changes to your email address or cell-phone number. As our financial system accommodates only one email address and one cell-phone number per account, we kindly ask separated or divorced parents to ensure that all relevant correspondence is shared between both parties, or that the other parent contacts the Finance Office directly to receive communication.

Payment Methods

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) remains our preferred method of payment.

Bank: Nedbank

Account Name: Longmarket Girls' School

Account Number: 1372 016 953

Branch Code: 198765

Reference: Please use your daughter's school fee account number exactly as it appears on your statement.

Using the correct reference number is extremely important, as payments are allocated manually. Incorrect references may delay the allocation of funds to your account. Should you have any finance-related queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Bursar, Mrs Banger at bursar@longmarketschool.co.za

In Closing

As we embark on another exciting term, I would like to sincerely thank all our parents and guardians for your continued support, encouragement and partnership with Longmarket Girls' School. Your involvement and willingness to embrace the many opportunities this term has to offer play a vital role in the success and happiness of our girls.

May God richly bless and protect every member of our Longmarket Girls' School family, granting safe travels, good health and His guidance throughout the term ahead.

Warm regards,



Mrs D. Petersen
Longmarket Girls' School
Principal

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Term 3 Highlights: Dates to Remember

Date	Day	Event
21 July	Tuesday	Staff & learners return to school; Gr 3 & 6 collections
22 July	Wednesday	Sports & extra-curricular activities begin
23 July	Thursday	Gr 6 Camp – Roselands (Depart)
24 July	Friday	Term 2 reports issued; Gr 6 Camp return
27 July	Monday	Term 3 projects begin
30 July	Thursday	Polar Bear Swim & Hot Chocolate Fundraiser (R20)
31 July	Friday	Grade 1 Zoo Excursion; LGS 136 Birthday Picnic
01 August	Saturday	LGS 136 Birthday
05 August	Wednesday	Gr 3 African Raptor Centre Excursion
06 - 07 August	Thursday-Friday	Gr 5 Camp to Nyala Pans River Camp Gr 7 Camp to Camp Jonathan, Eston
07 August	Friday	Career Dress-Up Day; Camps return
09 August	Sunday	National Women's Day
13 August	Thursday	Reading Cup – Grade 7 Presentations
14 August	Friday	Bring Your Wheels Day (Gr RRR–R)
21 August	Friday	Baking Activity (Gr RRR–R)
24–25 August	Monday–Tuesday	Gr 4 Camp – Camp El Olam
27–28 August	Thursday–Friday	Gr 1–7 Art Exhibition & Choral Versus Day
01 September	Tuesday	Spring Civvies Day – Flower Theme
04 September	Friday	Gr 7 Market Day
07 September	Monday	Summer Uniforms begin
11 September	Friday	Inter-House Athletics Day (U9–Open)
16 September	Wednesday	Photo Day (Gr RRR–7)
18 September	Friday	Athletics Day (Gr 1 & 2)
19 September	Saturday	Family Fun Day – Inflatable Rides & Braai
22 September	Monday	Heritage Day Fundraiser (R10)

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