



Newsletter



PARKTOWN HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

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@parktown_girls

Issue no. 6

15 April 2024

General News



WELCOME

A warm welcome to Mrs de Jager, who has joined the Arts Department. We wish you a long and happy stay at Parktown.

Welcome back to all our parents/guardians, learners and staff. Term 2 is another busy term and the May/June exams are around the corner. This exam timetable will be uploaded on our d6 School Communicator shortly. (under Resources – Academics).

An important reminder that an updated **Assessment Schedule** for the year can be found on the d6 School Communicator under Resources – Academics or click on this link:

https://downloads.d6communicator.com/downloads/resources/277_resource_65a8d1a280809273165012.pdf?1712575282

STEM MentHER PROGRAMME

Congratulations to Lesego Mabye, Jehan Elmedany, Nabeelah Darsot, Amira du Plessis and Rebecca Leisegang (not in photo) who have been selected from over 230 nominees to be part of the STEM MentHER programme for 2024. This programme pairs them with a mentor in the field of study they are interested in for next year and this mentor will work with them throughout the year to guide them through matric and assist them with university and bursary applications. The learners will have access to a range of opportunities provided through the programme itself in addition to the expertise of their mentor, most of whom are top doctors, lecturers and professors in their fields. On 28 March the learners attended a ceremony at WITS university where they were paired with their mentors and inducted into the programme.



WINTER UNIFORM

We have gone into a two-week Winter uniform change over period. Learners may wear full Summer or full Winter uniform during this period. Full Winter uniform will be compulsory for everyone from Monday, 6 May. Please ensure that all learners have the necessary Winter uniform items i.e. tie, long sleeve white shirt and thick black stockings/tights. Please note that tracksuits are **not** part of the Winter uniform and may **ONLY** be worn by Grade 12s when the school allows and if the **maximum** temperature is 14° or below.

TRACKSUITS REMINDER

Please take note: as the girls now have the option of wearing pants to school, **the tracksuit will no longer be allowed as part of the school uniform** on very cold days or to wear during exams. In other words, when the temperature is below 14°C learners may not wear tracksuits. We urge you to make plans for these days for when they occur in winter. This, however, **does not apply to Grade 12s for 2024 only**. The Grade 12s may wear their tracksuits when the school allows and if the maximum temperature is below 14°C, and during exams in June and August.

PARENTS' EVENING

We invite all parents and guardians to book slots to see your daughter or ward's teachers at the Parents' Evening on Thursday, 18 April. The event will run from 16:30 to 19:00. This event takes place in the form of parent / teacher mini-conferences that are allotted slots of five minutes each. The conference is designed to provide an opportunity for a brief discussion about your daughter / ward's academic progress as reported on in the academic progress report that was emailed to you on the last day of Term 1. If there are any teachers whom you would like to see, please ask your daughter or ward to book slots for you with those teachers. Booking forms were put up on Wednesday 3 April in each teacher's classroom or office for the purpose of booking. The five minute slot is sufficient for a check-in; if you need a longer time to talk to any teacher, please contact the teacher, via e-mail, to arrange a separate appointment at a time that is convenient for both of you. The layout of the venues for the event will be posted on the D6 closer to the time.

A NOTE FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

Any proof of payments for amounts paid into the school's bank account must please be sent to forrester@parktowngirls.co.za and no longer williams@parktowngirls.co.za

EFTs made into the school account:

If no Proof of payment has been sent to forrester@parktowngirls.co.za and a phone call must be made to find out what the payment is for, a R30-00 admin fee will be charged to your school fee account.

If your beneficiary reference is not correctly referenced and we have to contact the bank to trace the payment, a R75-00 admin fee will be charged to your school fee account.

If your beneficiary reference is incorrectly referenced and the payment must be reversed (i.e. an inter-account journal) an admin fee of R50 will be charged to your school fee account.

GRADE 8s INpowered

INpowered is an organisation dedicated to equipping both women and men with the essential tools to protect themselves. At the end of Term 1, The Grade 8s attended an INpowered Self Defence Course. They were taught the skills and knowledge to protect themselves from any potential harmful situation. The morning ended with the Grade 8s breaking and punching through wooden planks that they had personalised.



Academic News

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ENGINEERING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 2024

Congratulations to Alexia Smedmor (Grade 10) for her incredible achievement at this year's International Festival of Engineering, Science and Technology held in Mahdia, Tunisia from 22-28 March. This programme was an enriching experience, showcasing projects from over 20 countries including Switzerland, India and China, and also included trips and excursions for participants to discover the rich Tunisian culture. The competition included projects exhibited by university students.

Alexia was awarded a silver medal, showcasing her perseverance and innovative skills. Her success builds upon her outstanding performance at the International Science Fair in 2023.



Mr Party Chetty, executive director for Eskom expo for Young Scientists, says that he is reassured by our STEM education initiatives in South Africa when he sees young girls like Alexia competing at such international events. One of Eskom Expo's focus areas is promoting girl participation in the sciences and, at a young age, Alexia has already excelled in scientific research. Alexia's project, which utilised microbial fuel cells for environmental remediation and energy production in a rural area of Limpopo, demonstrates her commitment to addressing critical issues through scientific innovation.

We are super proud of Alexia for this remarkable achievement and for representing our school and our country so well at an international level.

Alexia Smedmor

Dates to Diarise



15/04	Finance Meeting
18/04	Parents' Evening
23/04	SGB Meeting
23-26/04	Major Production - Cinderella
27/04	Freedom Day (Public Holiday)
27/04	Matric Dance
01/05	Workers' Day (Public Holiday)
01-04/05	National All Girls' Schools' Festival – Potchefstroom
04/05	Mom and daughter's morning
06-10/05	Science Expo
06/05	Grade 10 Geography Field Trip
09/05	Maths Olympiad (Round 2)
10/05	Blood Drive
11/05	PPP Derby Day at Pretoria Girls
17/05	Bling Day

Cultural News

HIP HOP

Congratulations to the Hip Hop First team, "Labyrinth", as well as the following learners that were invited to participate in the National Eisteddfod's Young Performer Competition:

Soloists

Grace van den Berg
Vuyokazi Nosenga
Jody Blackburn
Mishka Cashdan

Small Group

Grace van den Berg
Mbali Mthembu
Oratile Molefe
Alicia Ngwenya
Moloko Mabela
Andisiwe Ndema



The girls did exceptionally well and received glowing reviews from the adjudicators. We are awaiting the results to see if they have qualified for the semi-finals.



MARIMBAS

The Advanced Marimba band was requested to play for Royal View, a Senior Living retirement home in Sandringham, to entertain the residents for the evening on 4 April. The feedback was incredible. Residents said that they did not know that so much could come out of a Marimba. Thank you to the girls for always performing at their best. *Photos by @juanitacoertzen*



MAJOR PRODUCTION

Parktown High School for Girls presents Ben Crocker's Cinderella. A witty and original pantomime.

Date: 23 - 26 April

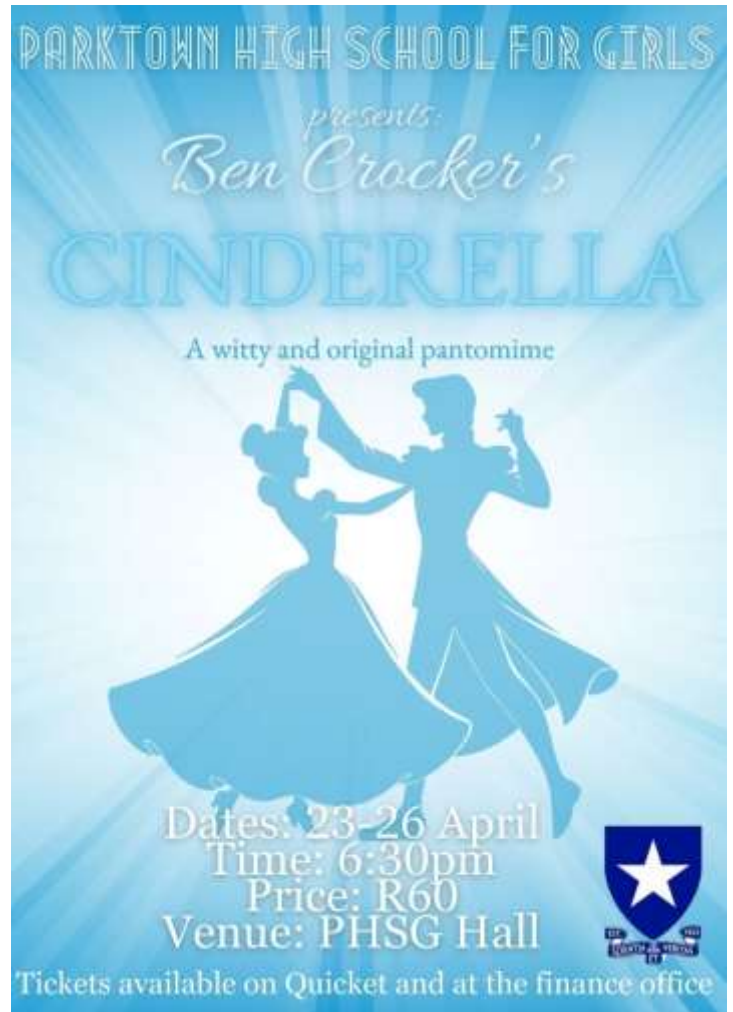
Time: 6:30pm

Price: R60

Venue: Parktown's Hall

Tickets available on

<https://www.quicket.co.za/events/256982-cinderella/> and at the Finance Office.



*A note from our Head of Culture,
Ms Lambert ...*

TERM 1 WRAP-UP

Our cultural activities had a productive and exciting first term focused on preparing for several school events, competitions, the NEA Young Performers Awards Competition, and the annual All Girls Festival which will be held in Potchefstroom in May.



The **CHOIR** is bustling with new participants and now stands at about 50 members. They performed at Open Day and High Tea and are about to send a Vocal Ensemble group to the All Girls Fest. They are also looking forward to the upcoming Choir camp.

The **CONTEMPORARY DANCERS** also performed at Fun Day and Open Day and presented an exceptional jazz number at the Roodepoort Theatre for the NEA Young Performers.

DEBATING had a busy term with two junior and two senior teams participating in the SACEE central competition. One of the junior teams ranked 6th, with Safwani Nkutha ranking 3rd best speaker. One senior team ranked 9th, with Laura Helling ranking as 10th best speaker. A grand total of 53 learners, including many new Grade 8s, attended the Debating camp in February, which was a great success. The teams are looking forward to the Girls Fest in May.

Our **DRAMA** activities are in full swing! A number of learners performed solo pieces at the NEA Young Performers, and Tameeha Ahmed, Thobile Mkwanzazi and Lella Gillman-Bate performed in the Quarter Finals on 10 April. What a wonderful achievement! Our amazing



student-led **FEDA** cast will be performing in two festivals this term on 18 and 25 May – keep an eye out for how you can support them! **MAJOR PRODUCTION** is just around the corner (22 – 26 April) and the cast is very hard at work perfecting their performance of *Cinderella* by Ben Crocker. Book your tickets now at Finance or on Quicket to avoid disappointment! And finally, auditions are in progress for the all-important **HOUSE PLAYS** which happen in Term 3.



HIP HOP continues to be a lively and popular extra-mural! We had a successful Saturday workshop with professional dancers from different genres. There was a choreographer, Vumile, from Idols and Big Brother, 250 Machine taught Amapiano, and Darim taught Hip Hop. The dancers learnt so much! The first team, a small group, and four solo dancers performed at the NEA Young Performers competition, and we are eager to hear if they will be invited to the semi-finals in May.

Our **MARIMBA BANDS** have received a lot of support this year with their confident and exciting performances at Fun Day, Open Day, High Tea and the NEA Young Performers. They also hosted a successful fundraiser at Spur which highlighted their initiative and passion. They will also be travelling to Potchefstroom for the All Girls Festival.

The talent in the **ORCHESTRA** is encouraging to see and they had the opportunity to perform at Fun Day, High Tea, and Open Day. Two of our musicians also performed at the Rose Village Valentine's Tea. An exciting addition to the Orchestra has been the introduction of a drumline with the purchase of a marching bass drum, a snare drum, and quad toms. This is a dream come true!



The **PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB** carries the vital responsibility of telling the story of our school through their photos of all school events and they do a fantastic job! Not only that, but our budding photographers have submitted their unique and powerful photos to numerous international competitions this year and they are encouraged to take part in the monthly website competition that is managed by the youth division of the PSSA (Photography Society of South Africa).

PUBLIC SPEAKING started off the term with a successful Team Building Day where members learnt numerous speaking skills from the guest speaker and participated in fun activities to improve self-confidence. The enthusiasm was impressive! Numerous teams then participated in the High Schools Public Speaking Festival where they achieved notable results. A special mention must go to Tasmiyah



Bhamjee who represented the school in the Grade 12 Individual section and received an A+. Congratulations are also due to Phethego Mello who spoke in the Quarterfinals of the NEA Young Performers last week.

Last but not least, **TRADITIONAL DANCE** had a great term with performances at Fun Day, Open Day and High Tea. This high-intensity activity is always entertaining and such an important part of the school culture, and we look forward to their performance at the Tshwane Youth Arts Festival later this year.

Sports News

CONGRATULATIONS

Maseeha Kajee has done it again! For the third year in a row, Maseeha has won Gold by placing first at the South African National **Archery** Championship which was held at Marks Park in March. She competed against older competitors in the U21 Women's Recurve Category at 70 meters. A fantastic achievement. Well done Maseeha.



Netball Team that will compete in the Action Netball World Cup in 2025. This is a phenomenal achievement, Ashleigh. The school is proud of you and supports you every step of the way. Congratulations on your selection.

Ashleigh King has been selected for the South African U19 Mixed Action

Ashleigh King



Congratulations to the following players who participated in the Inter-Provincial Action Netball Tournament in the first week of April. Well done ladies.

Southern Gauteng U19 A Team	Akhona Nosenga
North Western Gauteng U19 A Team	Lesedi Mkele
North Western Gauteng U16 A Team	Jenna Kinloch
North Western Gauteng U17 A Team	Hannah Allen
Western Gauteng U19 A Team	Ashleigh King
Western Gauteng U17 B Team	Mushishikwe Mamphiswana Entle Nyathi Yamani Daku

Congratulations to Mr Madi who managed the winning Central Gauteng U18 A Boys Team at the Inter Provincial Tournament over the school holidays.

Mr Madi having a celebratory swim with his team after winning the final



Mr Madi receiving his gold medal at the prize giving

CANOEING

Report done by Miss Engelbrecht, Teacher in charge of Canoeing

From March 22 - 24, six paddlers from Parktown participated in the SA Schools Sprints Canoe Championship at Victoria Lake Canoe Club in Germiston. The early mornings along the bank, being greeted by flocks of coots, and the gentle waves beneath our boats at the starting line, made for three days of pure enjoyment.

Each kayaker excelled in their K1 and K2 races, surpassing their personal bests with each effort. However, Elizabeth Senekal's achievement, securing a place in the U16 200m Final, was definitely a source of pride for us all. Congratulations to all competitors. We cannot wait for next year's event!

Well done to Isabella Lopes, Keara Little, Beril Yazici, Jing Rakgole, Jessica Seed, and Elizabeth Senekal on a fantastic end to the Sprint season.

We also wish to congratulate Alexia Smedmor on her achievement of first place in the U16 Female K1 Short course marathon race held on the 6th of April at Victoria Lake Canoe Club.



Jing Rakgole and Beril Yazici



Jessica Seed



Elizabeth Senekal



Keara Little and Isabella Lopes

Photos Courtesy of Safari Photography

CROSS COUNTRY

The Cross Country girls ran their first league race at St Stithians on Friday, 5 April. The girls ran well, with Enreth Daniel coming third in the senior girls' race. Well done to everyone who participated.

After the race, the girls enjoyed a pizza and games evening to get to know one another better. Ms Stewart conducted a yoga class which helped the girls stretch out their muscles.





Yoga with Ms Stewart

EQUESTRIAN

Congratulations to our riders who competed in the second Core League Qualifier. Your results are fantastic – keep up the good work.

Rebecca Hingst	1 st Place in the Level 2 Show-Jumping Pony (CompetitionPn) 1 st Place in the Level 2 Show-Jumping Pony 1 st Place in the Level 3 Working Hunter 1 st Place in the Level 6 Equitation Pony
Jessica Taggart	1 st Place in the Level 2 Show-Jumping Horse 2 nd Place in the Level 2 Show-Jumping Horse (CompetitionPn)



Rebecca Hingst

HOCKEY

The Hockey season has certainly started with a bang in Term 2. On Thursday we played our first league match against Fourways High School, with a very pleasing clean sweep, winning all the matches. On Friday afternoon we played our second league match against Heronbridge. Well Done to all the players who participated.

Parktown U14 A Team	Vs Fourways High School	Won 5 – 0
Parktown U14 B Team	Vs Fourways High School	Won 1 – 0
Parktown U15 A Team	Vs Fourways High School Vs Heronbridge	Won 2 – 0 Lost 1 – 2
Parktown U16 A Team	Vs Fourways High School	Won 5 – 0
Parktown 1 st Team	Vs Fourways High School Vs Heronbridge	Won 5 – 0 Won 4 – 0
Parktown 2 nd Team	Vs Fourways High School Vs Heronbridge	Won 2 – 0 Won 4 – 0



The Parktown 2nd Team took part in the Curro Aurora 1st Team Hockey Tournament on Saturday 6th April 2024. They did extremely well bringing home the trophy, sharing 1st Place with the host school. This is a fantastic achievement and they can be very proud of themselves. A special mention to Liyema Hogana and Angela Smith who were awarded the Top Goal Scorer and Top Defender Award respectively.

Angela Smith
Best Defender Award



Liyema Hogana
Top Goal Scorer



Parktown 2nd Team with their trophy

NETBALL

The Parktown 1st Team participated in the Annual St Andrew's 1st Team Netball Festival from Thursday, 4 April to Sunday, 7 April. They played against tough competition from all over South Africa. The tournament did not go as they hoped; nonetheless, a lot was learned and the team played well and had a lot of fun together. Overall, they won the final of the Bowl Section and came home with a medal. Overall the team placed 17th out of 32 schools. Thank you to Miss Hannan for giving up her weekend to be with the team.



Parktown Netball 1st Team after their win against Kingsmead College

The Parktown U15 A Netball Team took part in the St Mary's U15 Netball Tournament on Friday and Saturday 5 and 6 April. The team also played against very strong teams from all over South Africa which was a great learning experience for them. The group bonded well and had good preparation for the season ahead. The team placed 21st out of 24 schools overall. A special mention to Nirvana Pather who was selected for the All Stars of the tournament.



Parktown U15 A Team ready for the match against St Johns

HOCKEY TOURS OVER THE HOLIDAYS

U16 A Hockey Tour to Hoërskool Menlopark, Pretoria

Report by Klara Venter

On Wednesday, 20 March, the U16A Hockey team traveled to Pretoria to participate in the prestigious Hoërskool Menlopark Hockey Festival. Everyone was super excited and ready to start the first day off with a bang playing against the Helpmekaar U16A team. Fourteen teams from large, competitive schools took part in the tournament. Parktown fought hard on the field showing determination, passion, and great teamwork as well as kindness and friendship. The team grew stronger and closer throughout the five days and shared lots of fun experiences together, with tons of laughter, that bonded the team well. Parktown returned with an impressive result of coming 5th overall in the competition, which was the ultimate goal. A huge thank you to our coach and managers, Coach Charlie, Mrs Pautz, and Ms Brändli, who expertly and tirelessly guided us throughout the tournament. Overall, it was an incredible experience and opportunity, the team is extremely grateful to have participated in the festival. We will apply the knowledge we learned to our upcoming games in the 2nd term.

Special mention to Klara Venter, Khanyisa Ndamase, and Caitlyn Mclean who received MVP certificates for their performance. Thanks must go to Mrs Pautz for organizing the tour and doing all the preparations. Thanks to Ms. Brändli and Coach Charlie for assisting on the tour and giving of their holiday time.

Parktown U16 A Touring Team



Parktown Hockey 2nd Team

2nd Team Hockey to Hoërskool Eldoraïne, Pretoria

The Parktown Hockey 2nd Team took part in the Eldoraïne 2nd Team Festival over the school holidays in March. The team had a fantastic trip together focused on bonding and learning as much as they could on the Astro turf. This year's results placed them higher than we have ever placed before in 10th position out of 16 schools.



Please note:

A message from:
The Good Girls Club



TENNIS

AUTUMN CLINIC

8-12 April & 29 April-3 May

9am-12pm at Parkwood Tennis Club (Jan Celliers School)

R230 per day, alternatively R1000 for ALL 5 days

There will be a tournament held during the clinic and prizes will be awarded at the end as well!!

Remember to bring sunblock and daily refreshments for a mid-clinic break

CONTACT:

Marku Burger
Cell: 079 980 2770
Email: info@evolvetennis.co.za
Website: www.evolvetennis.co.za

Let's have some fun!!

EVOLVE
TENNIS ACADEMY



k i d s h a v e n

Service News

Kids Haven – Letter of Thanks

Thank you for the incredible kindness shown towards Kids Haven in your kind donation of Easter eggs. Thank you all those who kindly donated Easter eggs for our hunt. Your donation will allow our children to share in the joy and excitement of Easter! We are very grateful for your support.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Our fabulous Community Service girls worked incredibly hard to sort through piles of donated uniforms, into what we can keep to give to learners, and what will be donated to charities. By the end of the day, some fun was had in creating new Parktown fashions! Thank you, girls, for your hard work.



Save the Date:

Mom and Daughters' Morning

Mom and Daughters' Morning



Come join us for a special morning with lots of spot prizes.

We have a top South African Clinical Dietician, "Tabitha Hume" as guest speaker. You will be given an opportunity to interact with and purchase her famous book, "The New X Diet".

Then you will get treated to some coffee, tea and muffins, before being wowed by the Matrics modelling their matric dance outfits.

Saturday 4 May
09:00 - 11:30
Cost R60

Please pay at finance. Tickets are limited and will not be available on the day.

Old Girls' Lunch



Parents' Association News

An advertisement for School-Days, a fundraising platform for schools. The background is a photograph of a classroom with tables and chairs. The text is overlaid on the image. At the top, it says 'WELCOME Back TO SCHOOL' in large, colorful, 3D-style letters. To the right, it says 'Everything you need to know about: School-Days' with a sun icon. Below that, it says 'Join the 1.5 Million members raising funds for schools!' and 'Visit [www.schooldays.co.za](http://www schooldays.co.za) to join now - it's free!'. At the bottom, there are two dark blue boxes. The left box says 'LOGIN AND NOMINATE OUR SCHOOL' and 'It's free to join! You can get your family to support us too!'. The right box says 'SPEND WITH OUR PARTNERS' and 'Let's start with Dis-Chem Shop & swipe your Dis-Chem or Baby City Benefit card'. There are images of a smartphone showing the School-Days app interface and two benefit cards: a green Dis-Chem Benefit card and a white Baby City Benefit card.

School-Days

Do you have a Dis-chem or Baby City Benefit Card?

Join School-Days, login and nominate Parktown High school for Girls to help us raise funds. It's free!

www.schooldays.co.za

OUTSIDE ADS

THE SCHOOL ACCEPTS OUTSIDE ADVERTISEMENTS. WE ARE UNABLE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE NATURE AND QUALITY OF THE SERVICES OFFERED



Meet your
real partners.

Start your home journey with your local area specialist today.



The *real* estate agents™

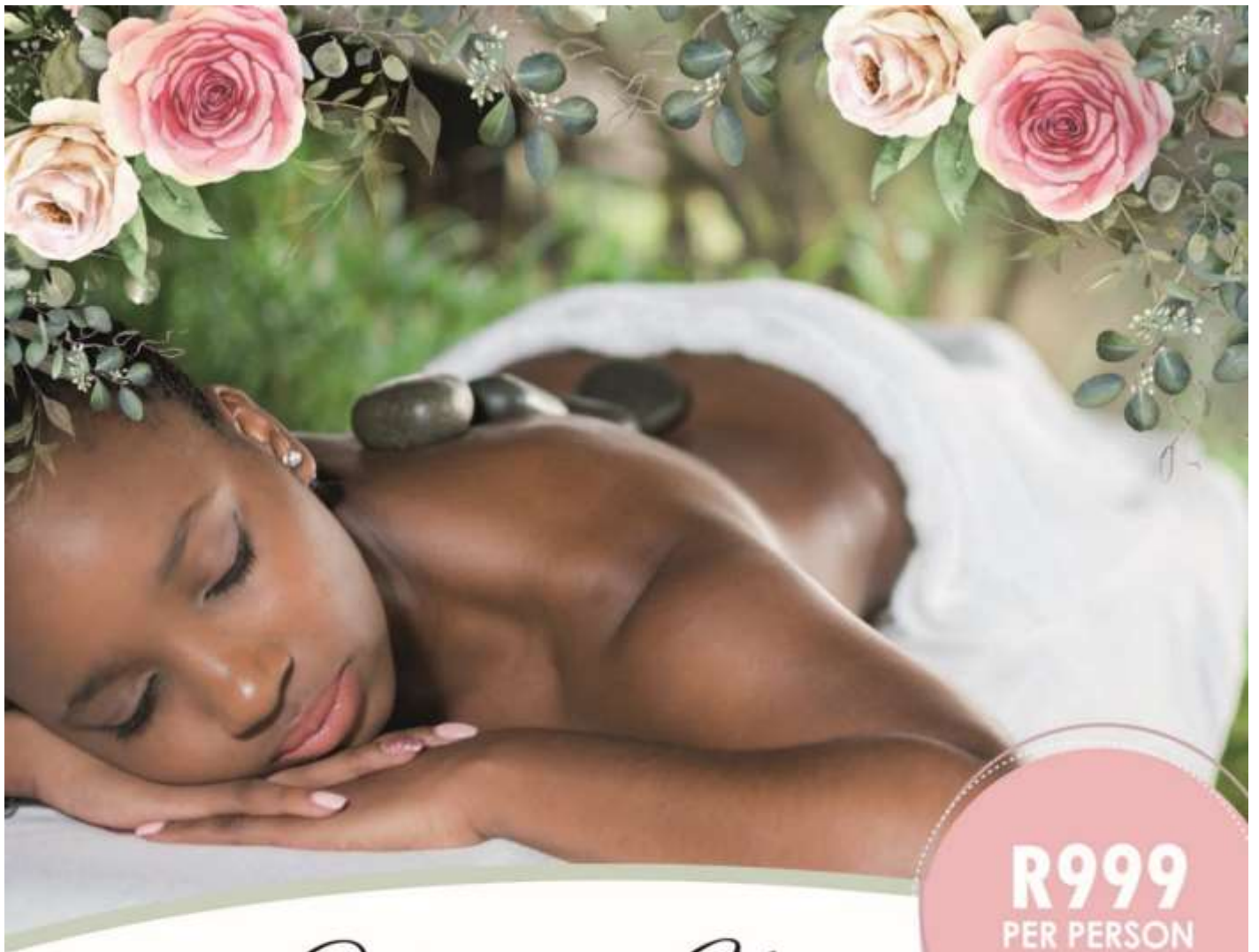
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Buy • Sell • Rent • Manage • Own



R999
PER PERSON
 01 - 30 MAY '24
 WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

Celebrate You

TAILOR-MADE 2-TREATMENT PACKAGE

- Welcome drinks on arrival at Mowana Spa •
- Your tailor-made 2-treatment package selection (details listed below) •
- Complimentary Local Beverages to quench your thirst. Limited to one alcoholic beverage per person •
- Departure Beverage •

Step One: SELECT YOUR PREFERRED PACKAGE

- Breakfast + 2 single treatments. 08h00 - 11h00 (excludes High Tea buffet) •
- 2 single treatments + High Tea. 08h30 - 11h00 (excludes plated breakfast) •
- 2 single treatments + Lunch. 09h30 - 13h00 (excludes High Tea buffet) •
- Lunch + 2 single treatments. 11h30 - 15h00 (excludes High Tea buffet) •
- 2 single treatments + High Tea. 13h30 - 16h30 (excludes plated lunch) •

Step Two: SELECT YOUR 2 PREFERRED SINGLE TREATMENTS

- Full Body Massage with or without Hot Stones to soothe tired muscles •
- Moisturising Facial Massage with MatsiMela Aloe Vera Facial Range •
- Foot & Lower Leg Massage for the ultimate "time-out" pamper •
- Relaxing Head, Neck & Shoulder Massage •
- Indulgent Hand & Lower Arm Massage •



MOWANA SPA | SITUATED AT INDABA HOTEL, CHR. WINNIE MANDELA DR & PIETER WENNING RD, FOURWAYS
 Phone: 0861 MOWANA (669282) | Email: reservations@mowanaspa.co.za | Website: www.mowanaspa.co.za

SEES APPLY. BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL. NO CASH ON ARRIVAL. VISITS 01 - 30 MAY 2024 WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY. SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

