

NEWSLETTER

January 2026

Dear 345 families

And just like that the first month of 2026 is done!

The holidays and New Year celebrations are a distant memory as the familiar routine of work and school returns. But through what we may feel is annual repetition, our children are growing and developing. Each one is discovering new things; whether it be academic or even more importantly, about themselves. Some of these new things are exciting while others may be challenging and that is where they are best poised to grow. The theme for our schools in 2026 is "*Courage to Change*" and whilst the children in the primary school can engage and begin to understand this with our support, the nursery school children will, whilst experiencing new challenges and fears, need us even more to guide them through these new experiences. At school and at home our guidance will teach them self-awareness and resilience.

Sincerely

Mark Heidmann





Dear Bouncing Bear Parents,

Welcome to a brand-new year! Wow—can you believe January is already behind us? What a month it has been, filled with a few tears and screams, but also so many smiles for miles. We did it!

The Bears have settled beautifully and are slowly getting into their daily routine. From building puzzle pieces together to squishing and mashing playdough, those little busy hands have been hard at work. We spent time learning all about *My New School*—meeting the lovely teachers and new friends, as well as discovering the toys and equipment we use each day. From the sandpit and swings to bikes and blocks... oh, what fun we've had! Towards the end of January, we began learning about *All About Me*. The children explored how we are all different and special, that we don't all share the same birthdays and how wonderfully unique each little Bear is.

Here's a sneak peek of what we've been up to!



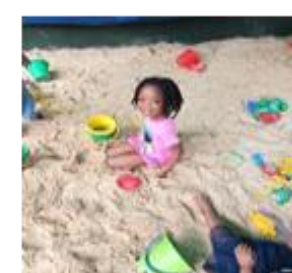


A warm welcome to all our learners and families!

We were delighted to begin this new school year together and wish everyone a happy, healthy and successful year ahead. It has been a joy getting to know the children and watching them grow during this first month at school.

The start of the year was a roller coaster of mixed emotions, especially for children experiencing school for the first time. There were happy moments, tearful goodbyes and many reassuring cuddles. As we approach the end of the month, we are proud to share that almost every Hippo has settled in beautifully. Their confidence is growing, their unique personalities are shining through and we are truly seeing their happy colours emerge. During our My New School / My Class theme, the children enjoyed a range of engaging activities. These included creating a 3-4-5 bag craft, familiarising themselves with the school surroundings, enjoying sandpit play, hula hoops and the jungle gym, as well as strengthening fine motor skills through fingerprint painting, colour sorting, peg boards, puzzles, tracing and colouring. Show and Tell also helped boost confidence and support language development.

These experiences have helped the children feel safe, secure and excited about coming to school each day. Thank you for your patience, support and trust during this settling-in period. We look forward to a wonderful year ahead with our Happy Hippos.





Dear Squeaky Squirrel Parents,

We have officially survived the first month of the year... even though January felt like it had 42 days. The children are starting to settle in beautifully and we are slowly finding our rhythm and routines. It has been such a joy to see how much they have grown and matured over the December holidays. They are excited, curious and eager to learn, exactly what we love to see! We have already begun focusing on developing those little finger muscles, which are so important for building the foundation needed for writing later on. Through fun, hands-on activities, we are strengthening fine motor skills in a playful and age-appropriate ways. This term, we will be exploring various learning areas, all through our favourite approach — learning through play. It allows the children to grow in confidence, creativity and independence while having lots of fun along the way. We are so excited for the journey ahead and look forward to a wonderful term of learning, laughter and growth together!





Welcome to a Brand-New Year in Grade R!

What a wonderful start to the year it has been! A big, warm welcome to our new Panther friends and families. After a long holiday, the children have returned to school with excitement and enthusiasm and it has been so special getting to know each little personality as we begin our journey together.

In class, we have focused on settling into our routines, building friendships and helping the children feel safe and happy in their new environment. Our themes this month have been "All About Me" and "My Family," giving the children the opportunity to talk about themselves, share their interests and learn more about the people who are important to them. One of the highlights of the month was our Show and Tell, where the children proudly shared special items and spoke about things they love. It has been lovely to see their confidence grow as they express themselves in front of their friends.

We have also begun with Baker's man, which encourages bonding with family and learning at home through fun, hands-on activities. The children have loved sharing their experiences and taking pride in what they have created with their families.

We are off to a fantastic start and I am so excited for all the learning, laughter and adventures that lie ahead this year!

