



UCA | TERM 2 2026 NEWSLETTER

A Ministry of HIS Church

Celebrating 21 years of teaching our children God's Words, Ways and Wisdom

FROM THE PEN OF THE PRINCIPAL

In the midst of busy schedules, work commitments, school activities, and the many demands of daily life, it is easy for family time to become squeezed into the gaps of our calendars. Yet, some of the most important moments in a child's life are often found in the simple, everyday interactions shared with family. Research and current discussions around child development continue to highlight the importance of strong family relationships. Children who experience meaningful family connection often develop greater emotional security, confidence, resilience, and a stronger sense of belonging. While we cannot always control the pace of life, we can be intentional about creating opportunities to connect.

Family bonding does not require elaborate plans or expensive outings. It can be as simple as:

- Sharing a meal together without distractions.
- Taking a walk as a family.
- Playing a board game or participating in a shared activity.
- Reading together.
- Having meaningful conversations about the day's events.
- Spending time in prayer and reflection as a family.

These moments create lasting memories and provide children with the assurance that they are loved, valued, and supported. They also help strengthen communication, build trust, and reinforce the values that shape character and guide future decisions.

As a school, we encourage every family to set aside intentional time each week to connect with one another. Consider creating "family time" where phones, televisions, and other distractions are put aside so that genuine conversation and interaction can take place. The investment of time made today will have a lasting impact on your child's future. As we partner together in the education and development of our children, let us remember that some of life's most valuable lessons are learned within the family. Strong families help build strong communities, and together we can provide our children with the foundation they need to thrive.

Sincerely,

Mr. van de Venter





OUR HIGH SCHOOL HEAD

This term has been both productive and rewarding for our Senior High students, with a healthy balance of academic commitment and fundraising initiatives.

One of the highlights of the term was our very first Spirit Month. This exciting initiative was designed to build school spirit and provide some well-deserved fun amidst a busy academic schedule. Funds raised during the month contributed towards reducing camp costs for our students.

Academically, our students worked diligently in preparation for the examination season. Grades 10 and 12 completed their mock examinations as an important step towards their Cambridge Exam at the end of the year, while the remaining grades also successfully completed their exam sessions. We are proud of our students for their perseverance and dedication to excellence.

The term concluded with our Senior High Camp at TO Strand. The camp is designed to build character development, leadership skills, teamwork, and resilience. We look forward to seeing the positive impact of this experience as students apply these valuable lessons in their daily lives.

Looking Ahead

We are excited about the opportunities planned for next term, including career days and educational outings for our Senior High students. These experiences are intended to broaden career awareness, expose students to various fields of work, and help them make informed decisions about their future pathways.

As always, we look forward to partnering with parents as we continue to build children's lives on God's Word, ways, and wisdom.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Marion May Subramoney





OUR PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding term, I am filled with gratitude for the many moments that have brought our school community together.

One of the highlights of the term was undoubtedly our Primary School Interhouse Sports Day. It was wonderful to see so many parents supporting our learners and contributing to the vibrant atmosphere of the day. A special thank you goes to Keke and the incredible Fun X team, whose professionalism and enthusiasm ensured that the event was executed flawlessly. Congratulations to David House on their well-deserved victory!

While we celebrate many successes, this term also brings the sadness of saying goodbye to two valued members of our staff.

Mr. Joshua Rungasamy will be leaving us to pursue an exciting new career opportunity. Joshua has been an unwavering source of support, wisdom, and encouragement. His dedication to our learners, staff, and school community has left a lasting impact, and on a personal level, I am deeply grateful for the guidance and support he has given me. He will be greatly missed, and we wish him every success in this new chapter.

We also bid farewell to Ms. Sadhai as she begins a beautiful new season of life through marriage and relocation. Over the years, we have had the privilege of watching her grow into an exceptional teacher and mentor. Her passion for education, commitment to her learners, and caring spirit have enriched our school community. We are excited for all that lies ahead for her and pray God's richest blessings over her future.

As we close this term, thank you to our staff, learners, and parents for your continued partnership and support. It is through each of you that our school remains a place where children's lives are built on God's Word, ways, and wisdom

Sincerely,
Mrs. Baijnath





OUR PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD

Term 2 was filled with excitement, fun, and wonderful opportunities for our preschool families to connect and create lasting memories together. Our annual Tour de Preschool Bike Race Fundraiser was a fantastic success, with children enthusiastically riding their bikes and scooters while supporting our school. It was wonderful to see the determination, excitement, and community spirit on display. A big thank you goes to all our parents and families for their generous sponsorships and support of the Tour de Preschool. This event would not have been possible without your contributions and encouragement. Amount raised R 15 000

We also celebrated our parents through our Mother's and Father's Day Gala Dinner and Art Auction held at the Cutty Sark hotel. A special thank you goes out to Mr Jacques Slabbert (Adylan's dad) and his staff for ensuring a successful and memorable evening. The 360 photo booth was a great hit and our parents and preschoolers had lots of fun making lasting memories. Our preschoolers performed their little hearts out and thereafter, a scrumptious dinner was served. There were some very special moments where moms and sons and fathers and daughters danced. The evening was a special occasion where families came together to enjoy good company while supporting the school. We are grateful for the generous support shown towards our art auction, with proceeds contributing towards the installation of our new astro turf. Amount raised

R 20 250

Throughout the term, our preschoolers also participated in Fun Spirit Month, embracing each themed day with enthusiasm, creativity, and plenty of smiles. The children thoroughly enjoyed dressing up, taking part in the activities, and showing their school spirit. Thank you to all our families for your continued support and involvement. Your partnership helps make these special events possible and contributes greatly to the vibrant preschool community we are proud to be part of. Looking forward to term three.

Some dates to remember

- 14 August 2026 – Preschool Sports day
- 05 September – UCA Family Fun Day
- 11 September – Preschool Grand Parent's day.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Davenee Govender





HEAD OF SPORT

It has been a very busy and productive second term at Umdoni Christian Academy, with a range of sporting codes in full swing across the school. We are grateful to be part of the KZNCCSA, whose well-organised events continue to provide our learners with valuable opportunities to grow, compete, and develop in sport.

The term started strongly with soccer, netball, and cross-country training already underway. Our extra-mural programme has remained active and well attended, with structured training schedules supporting learner development across all age groups. A sincere thank you goes to Coach Elaine and Miss Pillay cross country coaches as well as all our dedicated coaches for soccer, netball, and cross country, for their commitment, time, and passion. We extend our best wishes to all learners participating in the upcoming Provincial Cross Country event at Domino Servite School in Kranskop. Run with determination, discipline, and pride as you represent UCA to the best of your ability.

Two key highlights of the term include our U13 Netball team making history by competing in Randburg, a significant achievement for the school, and our Primary School Sports Day featuring Taylor versus David. This event showcased high levels of competition, excellent team spirit, and most importantly, a great deal of fun and enjoyment. A special word of thanks to FunX Kids in collaboration with the Primary School Department for their excellent planning and coordination, ensuring a memorable experience for all learners involved.

At UCA, sport has never been only about academics or competition, it is about developing the whole child. We believe daily training and physical activity are essential in shaping confident, disciplined, and healthy learners. Sport is not only about winning or being at the top; it is about character development, resilience, and true sportsmanship.

We also proudly celebrate all sporting participation beyond school codes, including netball, soccer, Nippers, golf, horse riding, canoeing, gymnastics, martial arts, ballet, hockey, tennis, and many more. If you would like your child's achievement recognised, please feel free to contact the school or the Sports Department so we can acknowledge their success.

As Head of Sport, I firmly believe that learners who participate in sport develop stronger social skills, improved communication, and better problem-solving abilities, all of which contribute positively to classroom performance and overall personal growth. We therefore encourage parents to support and encourage active participation, and where possible, lead by example through exercise and involvement in physical activity.

We would also like to commend our parents who took part in the Comrades Marathon this year: Kelly Saint, Danielle Turner, Peter Booyesen, and Kirsty Moriarty. Your commitment and endurance are truly inspiring to our learners.

As we prepare for the upcoming athletics season, training will officially begin on **22 July**. We encourage all learners to participate in Zonals and give it a try, do your best, and then make informed decisions as you grow in your sporting journey. We extend our gratitude to Miss Atherstone for her contribution to UCA sport and wish her everything of the best in

her future endeavours. Sport at UCA continues to grow from strength, and we look forward to an exciting and successful season ahead



Sincerely,
Mr. Joshua Rangasamy



NETBALL

The 2026 netball season was a remarkable one for UCA Netball, filled with growth, achievement, and memorable experiences.

For the first time, UCA introduced a pre-season training programme, allowing players from U9 to U19 level to develop their skills, techniques, and game understanding before the season began.

Participation grew steadily, and it was encouraging to see players across all age groups actively involved.

The season opened with the Kuswag Sports Festival, where our teams gained valuable experience competing outside our regular KZN Christian Association fixtures. The tournament provided important lessons in teamwork, resilience, sportsmanship, and representing UCA with pride.

A special thank you to Charmaine Kerkhof and her family business, (www.skippertentrailers.co.za), for sponsoring the U13 netball dresses. Your generosity has been a tremendous blessing to our team throughout the season.

Our teams then participated in the KZNCSSA Winter Sports Tournaments. Congratulations to our U11 team for winning their division and progressing to the next level of competition. We are equally proud of our U13 team, who won the KZNCSSA Winter Sports Tournament and qualified for the National Netball Tournament.

This was a historic achievement for UCA, marking the first time our school qualified for a national netball event. Competing in Randburg against strong opposition from across South Africa, the team performed exceptionally well, winning two matches and finishing 8th out of 13 teams.

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated coaches, Juf. Vosloo, Mrs Kandasami, Mrs Naicker, and Mrs Munien, Mr and Mrs Rungasamy for their commitment and investment in our players throughout the season. We also extend our appreciation to Mr and Mrs Pratt for their assistance with the national tour, and to the Longmore family for their generous hospitality during our stay in Johannesburg.

To our players, coaches, parents, sponsors, and supporters—thank you for making the 2026 season such a success. We look forward to building on these achievements in the years to come.





TOUR DE PRESCHOOL

UCA's Tour De Preschool has been part of our community for 11 years, bringing little riders, parents, teachers, family and friends together for an afternoon of laughter, cheering, and shared memories. For over a decade it's been more than just bikes and a finish line, it's where children gain confidence as some of them cross their first big kid track, where families cheer each other on, and where every participating school gets to raise funds for their own classrooms and resources through hosting a stall at the event. Over 11 years UCA's Tour De Preschool has built relationships that last beyond the event: parents connect with teachers, schools support one another, and we grow stronger by working together to give our children an afternoon to remember. It reminds us that when we show up for our youngest, and for each other, we build a community that feels like family.



UMDONI CHRISTIAN ACADEMY | SOCIAL UPDATES

WORLD BOOK DAY

The Primary School hosted a vibrant and memorable World Book Day Celebration, bringing together learners and staff in a joyful tribute to the wonderful world of books and reading.

The day was filled with excitement as learners arrived dressed as their favourite book characters, transforming the school into a living storybook. From classic fairy tale characters to beloved heroes and heroines from modern literature, the creativity and enthusiasm displayed by our learners were truly remarkable. Staff members also joined in the fun, embracing the spirit of the day by dressing up as literary characters and helping to create an atmosphere of imagination and adventure.

A variety of engaging activities took place throughout the day, including a Golden Ticket Hunt, Storytelling Competition, Sip and Read sessions, best dressed teachers and learners and a Book Donation Drive aimed at enriching our school library. These activities encouraged learners to develop a deeper appreciation for reading while fostering a love for literature in a fun and interactive way.

The highlight of the day was seeing learners enthusiastically discussing their favourite books, sharing stories with friends, and celebrating the joy that reading brings. The event also reinforced the importance of literacy and the role that books play in expanding knowledge, creativity, and imagination.

We extend our sincere thanks to the staff, parents, and learners who contributed to making World Book Day such a tremendous success. Your participation, creativity, and support helped create lasting memories and inspired our learners to continue exploring the exciting adventures that can be found within the pages of a book.

As we reflect on this wonderful celebration, we are reminded that a reader today is a leader tomorrow, and we look forward to many more opportunities to nurture a lifelong love of reading in our learners





SOCCER & NETBALL

Soccer and Netball :

The UCA Soccer Programme enjoyed a positive and successful season, with teams competing in the U9, U11, U13, U15, and U19 age groups. Our players participated in the KZNCSSA Winter Sports Festivals and several friendly fixtures against local schools, gaining valuable match experience and opportunities for growth.

Beyond the results, the season was marked by significant personal development. Players grew in confidence, teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship while consistently displaying Christian values and representing UCA with pride. With more than 40 learners regularly attending training sessions, the enthusiasm for soccer continues to increase, and the progress made throughout the season has been encouraging.

We extend our sincere thanks to CRG10 Sports Academy for their partnership and quality coaching, as well as to Coach Lael for his dedication and positive influence on our learners. Thank you to all our players, parents, and supporters for contributing to a memorable season. The future of UCA soccer is looking bright, and we look forward to even greater success in the years ahead.

May Sani2C

We are incredibly proud of our learners who served at the Sani2C event. Through their willingness to serve, they demonstrated perseverance, teamwork, responsibility, and resilience in challenging conditions. Experiences like this help to build character and develop important life skills that extend beyond the classroom. Thank you to all our learners for representing UCA with excellence and integrity and staff serving as marshals, at the wash bay and admin at the T-shirt tent.





UMDONI CHRISTIAN ACADEMY | SOCIAL UPDATES

Cross Country Zonals and Provincials

As we conclude the term, we celebrate the outstanding achievements of our Cross Country athletes. At the Durban North and South Zonal Championships held at Umhlanga Rocks, 35 UCA learners competed with determination and pride. From this event, 20 learners qualified for the Provincial Championships at Domino Servite School, reflecting their consistency and hard work throughout the season. We are particularly proud that 6 learners have qualified to represent the province at the upcoming SACSSA Cross Country Championships at Caritas School in Bethlehem. These achievements reflect discipline, perseverance, and a commitment to excellence. Well done to all our athletes and coaches for a strong season.

Under top 5 in Provincials. Well done for excellent performance.

Boys U6 – 3rd Callum Scott-Dawkins

Boys U7 – 3rd Nkosi Khati

Boys U8 – 3rd Joshua Scott-Dawkins

Boys U13 – 4th Aaron Saint



June

Grade 6 Outing: The Grade 6's had the opportunity to attend an Oil and Gas Awareness Workshop that was hosted by SDCEA (South Durban Community Environmental Alliance). Much fun and learning took place as they heard more about the effects of global warming and seismic testing on animals and ourselves. They also had the opportunity to become citizen scientists by conducting some water testing experiments on our school's water. We are happy to conclude that UCA's water is safe and clean!





WORLD OCEANS DAY:

(Our World Oceans Day celebrations at school include some informative talks by some of our cool locals. We had Caity, Teagan and Keziah from Wild Alliance's Ocean Leadership program teaches us about Marine Protected Areas like Aliwal Shoal. Ex-pupil, Liane Ackermann, took us under the sea with her talk on scuba diving and one of our very own parents, Gavin Roberts, captured all the kids' attention with his cool surfing stories! It was very apparent that all these people love the ocean and they surely inspired our students to be 'better blue humans'!



Kairav Bisun

We would like to congratulate Kairav Bisun for serving as an ambassador for UCA at the South Coast Children's Festival Quiz. We are proud of the way Kairav represented our school with distinction, demonstrating pride, responsibility, and character throughout the event. Thank you for upholding the values of UCA and representing us so well.





Primary School Inter-house Sport Day

Another highlight of the term was our much-anticipated Primary School Interhouse Sports Day. The day was filled with excitement, teamwork, determination, and outstanding sportsmanship as learners proudly represented their houses and gave their very best in every event.

It was especially encouraging to see so many parents and family members cheering from the sidelines. Your enthusiastic support created an electric atmosphere and made the day even more memorable for our learners.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Keke and the incredible Fun X team for their exceptional organization, professionalism, and infectious enthusiasm. Their dedication ensured that every activity ran smoothly, allowing learners to enjoy a fun-filled day of healthy competition and celebration.

A sincere thank you to our Primary School staff for their outstanding teamwork in coordinating the food orders, assisting throughout the day, and creating such a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere. Your commitment behind the scenes played a significant role in the success of the event. Special thanks also to Ms. Pillay for beautifully capturing the day's memorable moments through her stunning photographs.

Congratulations to David House on being crowned our 2026 Interhouse Sports Day Champions! Well done to every learner who participated with courage, commitment, and school spirit. It was a wonderful celebration of community, perseverance, and the values that make our school so special.





MAY SPIRIT MONTH

Head Prefects & Grade 9-12 Student Body

UCA Spirit Month May 2026 – A Wonderful Success!

Spirit Month 2026 was undoubtedly one of the highlights of the school year! Throughout May, our school campus was filled with excitement, laughter, creativity, and school spirit as learners enthusiastically participated in each themed day. From the coordinated outfits of **Double Trouble Day** to the colourful expressions of **Funk It Up Day**, the imaginative costumes of **Main Character Energy Day**, and the creative brilliance displayed during **Shades On, Bags Gone Day**, our learners truly embraced every opportunity to have fun and express themselves. The event brought a wonderful zest of pomp, energy, and flair to our school routine, transforming ordinary Tuesdays into memorable occasions that learners eagerly anticipated. It was inspiring to see so many learners unleash their creativity and innovation while contributing to the vibrant atmosphere that made Spirit Month so special.

A huge congratulations to **Milano Green (Grade 1)**, the winner of our **Grand Spirit Month Prize Draw!**

We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to the teachers and learners who assisted in planning and running the event, as well as to every parent and learner who purchased tickets and supported the fundraiser. Thanks to your enthusiasm and generosity, we were able to raise a significant amount of money towards the Senior High Camp taking place later this term.

Spirit Month 2026 was a fantastic celebration of creativity, community, and school spirit, and the memories made throughout the month will certainly be cherished for years to come.

Cannot Wait For Next Year !

Sincere & Grateful Regard

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UMDONI CHRISTIAN ACADEMY | SOCIAL UPDATES

MAY SPIRIT MONTH

Head Prefects & Grade 9-12 Student Body





UMDONI CHRISTIAN ACADEMY | SOCIAL UPDATES

PRE-SCHOOL MUM & DADS EVENING





UMDONI CHRISTIAN ACADEMY | CALENDAR

TERM 3: IMPORTANT DATES



2026 TERM 3 PLANNER

Important Dates for July - September



JULY	
Week 1	
20 Mon	Staff meeting and prepare classes at 8:00
21 Tue	School Opens for Learners Athletics start
Week 2	
27 Mon	Academic Open Evening Gr RRR - Gr R at 12:30 - 17:30 Gr 1 - 3 at 14:00 - 17:00 Gr 4 - 12 at 15:00 - 18:00
AUGUST	
1 Sat	Cross Country SACSSA Caritas Bethlehem
Week 3	
4 Tue	Career Trip Gr 9 -12
5 Wed	Career Trip Gr 9 -12
6 Thu	Subject Choices Gr 8 at 18:00
7 Fri	Last date of entry IGCSE and AS exams
8 Sat	Zonal Athletics Suid Natal (all staff)
9 Sun	Woman's Day

Week 4	
10 Mon	Public Holiday
14 Fri	Sport Day Pre Primary at 09:00
15 Sat	SACSSA Online Chess
Week 6	
29 Sat	KZNCSSA Athletics Msunduzi Stadium

Week 9	
17 Thu	School Close at 10:00
19 Sat	KZNCSSA Table Tennis TBC
Week 10	
25 Fri	SACSSA Athletics Msunduzi Stadium
26 Sat	SACSSA Athletics Msunduzi Stadium
Week 11	
28 Mon	IGCSE and AS Exams Start

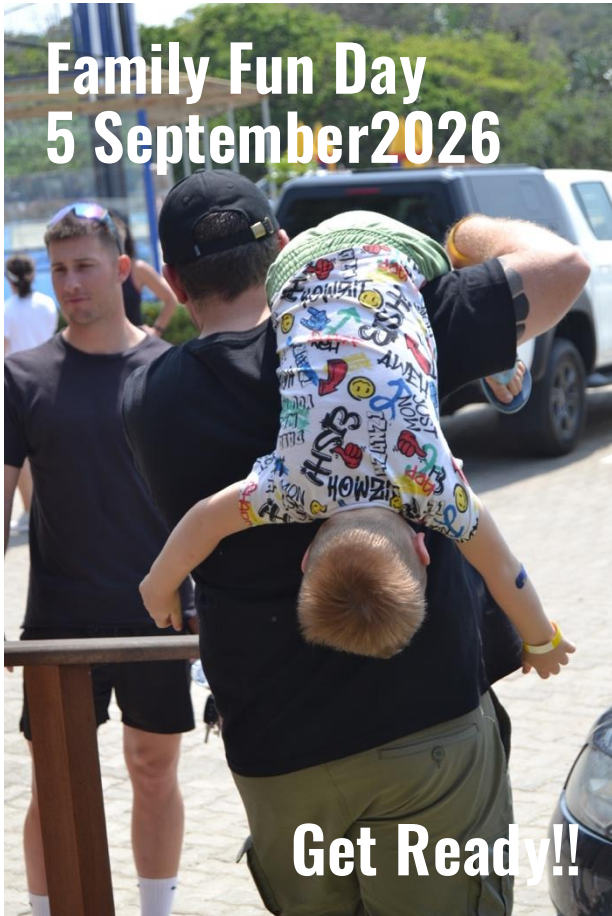


SEPTEMBER	
Week 7	
1 Tue	Spring Day - Civies (no fee)
4 Fri	Casual Day - Disability (R20)
5 Sat	SACSSA Invitational Athletics TBC UCA Family Fun Day TBC
Week 8	
9 Wed	Primary Science Fair Gr 1 - 6
11 Fri	Grandparent Day at 10:00
12 Sat	KZNCSSA Provincial Chess His Church School

YEAR TERM DATES

Term 3: 21 July – 17 September
Term 4: 6 October – 9 December

UPCOMING EVENTS & GIVING INITIATIVES



Phoebe's
Pantry ♡

- Tinned goodies
- Personal Toiletries
- Pasta
- Sugar
- Flour ♡
- Coffee & Tea
- Juice
- Cereal
- Long life milk ♡

Donate monthly for a family in need
Drop your food stuffs at His Church any day of the week

ADVERTISE WITH US

Email admin@umdonica.co.za for more information. All advertising goes to our school building fund.

Want to submit school pics to be featured in social and on our newsletter - Submit to admin@umdonica.co.za

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