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December 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians

## TERM 4 NORTON HOUSE BULLETIN

At Norton House, we believe that leadership is found not only in grand moments but also in the quiet routines that shape our days. This year has shown that small, intentional actions can have a powerful impact on our community. As we welcomed new staff, upgraded our facilities, and celebrated the dedication of our learners, Hostel Prefects and matriculants, we were reminded of a simple truth: greatness often begins with the ordinary. Just as a keystone habit sets the tone for success, the steady commitment of our staff and boys continues to strengthen the heart of our hostel.

There's a writer named Charles Duhigg who studied how habits shape our lives. He talks about something called a *keystone habit* which is a small, often ordinary or even boring action that ends up influencing many other parts of our lives. One of my favourite examples is the simple act of making your bed. Some of you may have heard Admiral William McRaven's famous speech about this. It sounds boring, right? But researchers have found something interesting: people who make their beds every morning tend to be more productive, more focused, and feel better about themselves throughout the day. Why? Because doing one small, disciplined task at the start of the day sets the tone for everything that follows. It's like telling yourself, "I'm in charge of my day." That one simple, boring habit becomes the first domino that leads to bigger and better things — stronger study habits, healthier relationships, and greater confidence. So keep making your beds. It's a small act with a surprisingly powerful impact.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Norton House continues to be the heart of our school, fostering leadership, creativity, and excellence in every student. Over the past year, our students have excelled across academics, sports, and the arts, demonstrating dedication, talent, and school spirit. From rugby fields to classrooms, from the stage to the cricket pitch, our students have made us proud.

### Senior Students

- **Njongo Mbanga** earned Colours, served as 1st XV Vice-Captain, was a School Prefect, received a Palma Award, and led Founder's Day as Parade Commander.
- **Qiniso Mhlambiso** captained the 2nd XV Rugby team and was benched for the 1st XV.
- **Mbongeni Wolela** and **Thokoza Madala** continued to produce exceptional artwork.

### Grade 11 Highlights

- **Owami Nkatu** represented South Africa in Top Schools Squash and placed 3rd in the Border Inter-Provincial Tournament.
- **Linamandla Njozela** was capped for 2nd Cricket, scored 58 points for 6th XV Rugby, and was the team's MVP.
- **Liyema Tafeni** and **Alutha Katiya** contributed to rugby and cricket successes, including key victories over Grey College.
- Academic excellence: **Hlubi Nqambi** achieved a distinction in the Accounting Olympiad and remained on the Merit List all year.
- Other notable rugby contributors: **Zwelethu Nojaholo, Sanda George, Lusanele Ganthso, Sabelo Vuso, Imibongo Magwevana.**

### Grade 10 Highlights

- **Othandwayo Magadla** captained the U16 Border Country Districts Rugby team and excelled in athletics and IsiXhosa.
- **Mivuyo Lwana** played 1st Team and U16A Hockey, represented Border, and played 2nd Cricket.
- **Sazi Silwana** earned multiple Drama awards and competed in cross country and athletics.
- Merit List and leadership recognition: **Hlumela Sibozo, Lutho Mhlaba, Ayola Siko, Minqwena Ndiki, Sibulele Lwana, Lunathi Yedwa.**

### Grade 9 Highlights

- **Lwandle Sikhosana** made the Border U15 Soccer team and U15B Cricket, consistently on the Merit List.
- **Carter Carenza** competed at the SA Rowing Championships.
- **Mihlali Mda** achieved a distinction in Mathematics and had his artwork exhibited.
- **Afika Njokweni** captained the U15C Rugby team and played U15B Rugby.
- **Sandile Mbamali** continued to be our top academic achiever.

### Grade 8 Highlights

- Rugby: **Ayola Mponco, Bulela Makalima, Hlalumi Tom, Bonga Johnny, Luniko Ntamo** all represented U14/U15 teams.
- Academic excellence: **Bulela Makalima, Likhanyile Gila, Iminathi Sotheni, Luhle Faye, Alive Ngxanga.**
- Other: **Likhanyile Gila** excelled in debating and cricket scoring, **Sikhokele Kente** competed at Drama Nationals, and **Abulele Msikinya** and **Luniko Ntamo** represented the school in athletics.

This year has been a testament to the dedication, talent, and spirit of Norton House students. Their achievements remind us that excellence is built not just on individual success but on teamwork, perseverance, and pride in our school community.

## LEADERSHIP

The Hostel Prefects are crucial in bridging the gap between staff and learners. The following boys were appointed Prefects for 2026 and announced at our Christmas dinner. We look forward to working with this group and wish them all the best in their new roles.

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Hostel Head Prefect | Owami Nkatu         |
| Hostel Prefect      | Grigorios Antonakas |
| Hostel Prefect      | Sanda George        |
| Hostel Prefect      | Imibongo Magwevana  |
| Hostel Prefect      | Sabelo Vuso         |

## WELCOME FUNCTION - START OF 2026

### Monday - 12 January 2026

Prefects and Grade 12's: **14h00 (in school uniform, please adhere to these times)**

*On Monday, 12 January 2026 - Parents of Grade 12 learners are invited to join the staff and the NEW LEARNERS and GRADE 8 boys for a Cocktail Function, as we welcome them to Norton House at 14h00. **We advise that only 2 persons per family are permitted.***

During this event, we will introduce the mentorship programme between the **Grade 8 and Grade 12 learners**, followed by a welcome address from Mr. Miles, our hostel superintendent. This invitation is also extended to all Grade 12 learners and their parents. The function will take the form of a cocktail event at **14h00** in front of the hostel. This initiative is an important step in helping us build a strong sense of community from the start. By fostering early connections, we aim to support the smooth integration of our new learners into the Norton House family.

## HOSTEL PARENT COMMITTEE

Last term, we requested volunteers to join a Hostel Parent Committee. At this stage, only one parent has stepped forward, and I would like to encourage more of you to consider being part of this group. **Our goal is to have one parent representative from each grade.** This committee will meet once per term and serve as a platform for parents to share insights, offer suggestions, and work with us to strengthen communication and support within the hostel. If you are willing to serve, please send me a message directly. Your involvement would be greatly appreciated and will play an important role in the continued growth of our hostel community. I look forward to partnering with you to ensure the best possible environment for our boys.

## FEES

Please be aware that fees are payable on a termly basis in advance to cover food and operational expenses for the term. Fees need to be current for your son to be permitted to return to the hostel on Monday, 12 January 2026.

### SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF SCHOOL AND HOSTEL FEES FOR 2026

| SCHOOL FEES                   | ANNUAL FEE        | TERMLY FEE                              | MONTHLY FEE   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| 2026                          | <b>R59,950-00</b> | R14,987-50<br>(Paid termly, in advance) | <b>R5,450-00</b> per month x 11 months<br>(January to November) |
| <b>FULL BOARDING - FEES</b>   | <i>ANNUAL FEE</i> | <i>TERMLY FEE</i>                       | <i>MONTHLY FEE</i>  |
| 2026                          | <b>R73,000-00</b> | <b>R18,250-00</b><br>(See due dates)    | n/a   |
| <b>WEEKLY BOARDING - FEES</b> | <i>ANNUAL FEE</i> | <i>TERMLY FEE</i>                       |   |
| 2026                          | <b>R52,000-00</b> | <b>R13,000-00</b><br>(See due dates)    | n/a   |

The Boarding Fee has been set, as above. There are only 2 options of payment, annually or termly. All payments are due by the FIRST DAY of every term (please see table below for details). **Any fees paid will first be used to settle the school fee account before accruing to the boarding fee account.**

Boarding fees must be paid in one of TWO ways:

**Option 1** – An Annual fee **paid in advance**, on or before **1<sup>st</sup> January 2026**.

**Option 2** – Termly **in advance**. Four (4) payments made per annum, on or before the following dates:

- 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 (1<sup>st</sup> Term)
- 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)
- 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026 (3<sup>rd</sup> Term)
- 1<sup>st</sup> October 2026 (4<sup>th</sup> Term)

The banking details for Norton House are listed below, please ensure that you use your Hostel or School ACCOUNT number (found on your statement) as a REFERENCE No. for ALL payments, as often the payments do not reflect on your account due to the incorrect reference number. The School Finance Committee stress that proof of payment of school fees will be required before boys may be admitted to hostel at the start of 2026.

| HOSTEL BANKING DETAILS |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Name:                  | Norton House                    |
| Bank:                  | Standard Bank                   |
| Branch:                | Vincent Park                    |
| Code:                  | 0 510 01                        |
| Account Number:        | 2415 670 41                     |
| Reference:             | <b>Son's Name &amp; Surname</b> |

If you have any questions or would like to discuss these options further, please do not hesitate to contact our Hostel Superintendent, Mr Allan Miles ([a.miles@g.selborne.co.za](mailto:a.miles@g.selborne.co.za)) or our Finance Office, Mrs Leanne Jacoby ([debtors@selborne.co.za](mailto:debtors@selborne.co.za)).

## CONCLUSION

As we close this term, we celebrate the dedication, achievements, and spirit that make Norton House such a special community. From the quiet consistency of daily routines to the extraordinary successes in academics, sports, and the arts, this year has shown that even small, intentional actions can create a lasting impact.

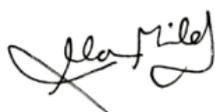
Boys, as you return home for the holidays, remember the simple but powerful lessons of this year, especially the importance of your “keystone habits.” Keep making your beds each morning. It may seem small, but this simple act sets the tone for your day, builds discipline, and reminds you that you are in charge of your own success, whether at home or back at school.

To all our students, staff, and families, we wish you a joyful Christmas and a restful, refreshing holiday season. May this time be filled with laughter, warmth, and the making of wonderful memories. We look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year, ready to continue growing, learning, and leading together.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**All learners return: Tuesday, 13 January between 14h00 – 17h00 (in school uniform – please adhere to these times).**

Yours faithfully



MR ALLAN MILES  
NORTON HOUSE SUPERINTENDENT

# TERM 1 – IMPORTANT DATES - 2026

## JANUARY – 2026

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 7–11     | CRICKET – Grey High Cricket Festival (1 <sup>st</sup> XI) – Gqeberha  |
| 10       | Grade 8 – Text Book Collection  |
|          | SCHOOL OPENS - STAFF<br>Grade 11 & 12 Text Book Collection (see D6 for details)<br>Grade 8 & New Hostel Boys & Grade 12's - Arrive (14h00) - School Uniform   |
| 13       | Grade 9 & 10 Text Book Collection (see D6 for details)<br>U14 Cricket Practice (All new boys) 16h15 – 17h30<br>Grade 8 & New Boys - Orientation (13h45)<br>All Hostelites – Arrive (14h00 – 17h00) - School Uniform (see Bulletin for info) |
| 14       | FIRST TERM STARTS<br>Text Book Mop-Up (Grade 8 – 12) TBC  |
| 15       | Grade 8 – Athletics / Sleepover   |
| 16       | School & Hostel Prefect Induction<br>CRICKET – SA20 (1 <sup>st</sup> XI) Phase 2 Finals   |
| 17       | CRICKET - Stirling High (home & away)   |
| 19       | Big Bleed (Grade 10 – 12)   |
| 20       | Inter-House Athletics Pre-events  |
| 21       | Inter-House Athletics<br>Grade 8 Clarendon Interaction<br>Moms Welcome Social (17h30 – Emslie)  |
| 23       | INTERACT – Selborne / Clarendon Prayer Day<br>WATER POLO – Selborne Primary Fixtures (15B & 14B)  |
| 24       | WATER POLO – St Andrew's (The Club) Makhanda  |
| 23-24    | TENNIS – Merrifield Tournament (1 <sup>st</sup> )   |
| 23-25    | WATER POLO – St Andrew's Shield   |
| 24       | DEBATING – Border Adjudication Workshop<br>CRICKET – Internal Matches<br>ROWING - Grey U14 Regatta (Gqeberha)<br>SWIMMING – BCA January Age Group Gala  |
| 28       | PHOTO DAY – Class & Individual  |
| 29       | CAREER EXPO – Grade 9, 11 & 12 (08h00 – 10h00)  |
| 29-1 Feb | WATER POLO – Pearson National Tournament (2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> ) – Gqeberha  |
| 30-1 Feb | SQUASH – Dave Hodgson Festival (1 <sup>st</sup> ) – Makhanda  |
| 30       | TENNIS – Queen's College Top 8 (Queenstown)   |
| 31       | ROWING – ECRA Regatta<br>DEBATING – Beginners Workshop<br>CRICKET – Hudson Park (home & away)   |

# FEBRUARY

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 2        | SCA – Praise & Workshop (Selborne College)   |
| 5        | ROWING - Buffalo Regatta Heats (Buffalo River)   |
| 6        | ROWING – Selborne Sprints (Buffalo River)<br>INTERACT – Valentines Disco<br>SHORT FRIDAY (12h30)<br>SQUASH – FNB Invitational Festival (1 <sup>st</sup> ) - Bloemfontein |
| 6-7      | WATER POLO – Jason Murray (U14)  |
| 6-8      | GOLF – Grey High School (Katberg)  |
| 7        | CRICKET – Graeme College (home & away)<br>ROWING – Buffalo Regatta   |
| 9        | SGB Meeting & Bi-Election  |
| 10       | INTERHOUSE GALA - Joan Harrison (13h00 – 16h00)  |
| 11       | Civvies Day (Valentines ) Dress in Pink / Red / White  |
| 12-14    | WATER POLO – Vides Tournament (1 <sup>st</sup> )<br>WATER POLO – Oakhill Festival (Knysna) 3 <sup>rd</sup> Team  |
| 13       | GOLF – St Andrew's   |
| 14       | SQUASH – Border Closed (Round 1)<br>CRICKET – St Andrew's (home & away)  |
| 17       | Grade 12 – Parent Meeting  |
| 18       | Grade 11 – Parent Meeting  |
| 18-22    | TENNIS – Tjaart Vorster Tournament (1 <sup>st</sup> )  |
| 19-22    | WATER POLO – Grey High Tournament (U15A)   |
| 20-22    | GOLF – Selborne Tournament   |
| 20       | SHORT FRIDAY (12h30) Hostel Leave Out Weekend<br>WATER POLO – St Andrew's (1 <sup>st</sup> Team)   |
| 21       | CRICKET – Queen's College (home & away)<br>WATER POLO – St Andrew's (The Club)<br>ROWING – Internal Racing   |
| 26-1 Mar | WATER POLO – Ken Short (U14) Jeppe<br>WATER POLO – Indigo (U15) Parktown   |
| 26-2 Mar | WATER POLO – Kes (1 <sup>st</sup> ) JHB  |
| 27-28    | WATER POLO – Stirling 2nds Festival  |
| 27-1 Mar | TENNIS – Selborne / Clarendon Mixed Doubles Tournament (1 <sup>st</sup> )  |
| 28       | CRICKET – Grey High School (home & away)   |

# MARCH

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| 2     | WINTER SPORT SEASON STARTS   |
| 3     | ENDURANCE HIKE   |
| 5     | GRADE 7 – OPEN EVENING   |
| 6     | TENNIS – St Andrew’s (Makhanda)  |
| 6-8   | ROWING – SA SCHOOLS ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS (Pretoria)  |
| 7     | RUGBY – Ooskus<br>DEBATING – Beginners Festival  |
| 9     | SGB Meeting  |
| 11    | PHOTO DAY – Summer Sport   |
| 12    | MATHS OLYMPIAD – ROUND 1   |
| 12-15 | HOCKEY – Tony Godding (1 <sup>st</sup> )   |
| 13    | CULTURAL EVENT – Music Evening with Lloy Brent (Main Hall) - 18h00   |
| 14    | RUGBY – Border Schools Rugby Day<br>INTERACT – CANSA Relay (St Joseph’s Preparatory)   |
| 15    | SQUASH – Border Closed (2 <sup>nd</sup> Round)   |
| 16    | CULTURAL EVENT - Guitar Evening (Front of School) - 18h00  |
| 17    | CULTURAL EVENT – Market Day / Staff Quiz & Street Art  |
| 19    | CULTURAL EVENT - IsiXhosa Society (Main Hall) - 18h00  |
| 19    | GRADE 12 – Camp (The Cove)<br>CULTURAL EVENT – Inter-House Plays (Main Hall) - 18h00   |
| 20    | MATRIC DANCE   |
| 21    | PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Human Rights Day<br>COLOR RUN (Info on D6 and social media)<br>RUGBY – Graeme Rugby Festival (1st, U16A, U15A, U14A)<br>HOCKEY – Grey High Matches (Home) Teams TBC |
| 20-21 | DEBATING – Alexander Road Debating & Public Speaking Festival (Gqeberha)   |
| 23    | SHORT DAY – 13h30  |
| 26    | QUARTERLY AWARDS - Last Day of School - learners   |
| 27    | Staff Development & Last Day of School – Staff   |

## APRIL

|         |                                |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| 2-4     | HOCKEY – Rob Taylor (U14) Home |
| 7 April | Hostel Boys Arrive             |
| 8 April | TERM 2 – First Day of School   |

### HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

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| (SOCCER) Victoria Park Challenge (Gqeberha)<br>(HOCKEY) NOMADS (U14 - Jeppe)<br>(HOCKEY) NOMADS (U16 - Selborne)<br>(HOCKEY) NOMADS (1st - Pretoria)<br>(HOCKEY) KES FESTIVAL (Gauteng)<br>(RUGBY) Pretoria Boys Festival (Pretoria)<br>(SQUASH) Border Closed (6 April) |
|--|