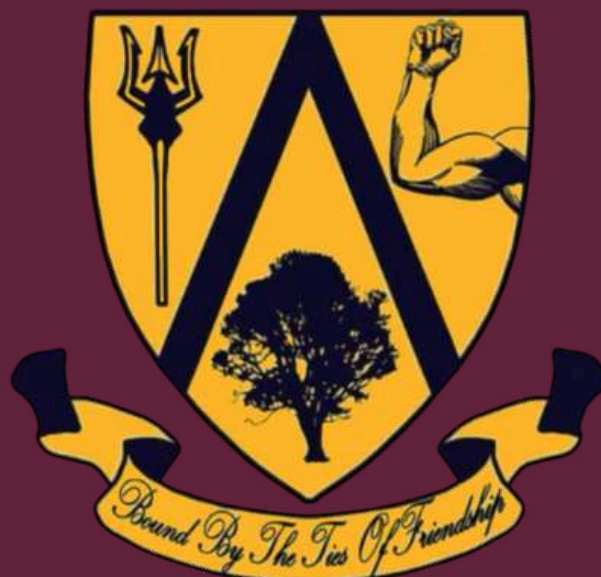


HUIS NEETHLING 2026 WELCOMING BOOKLET



BOUND BY THE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP

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Our STORY



The community of Huis Neethling is a dynamic and vibrant collective of student-athletes that fosters an atmosphere of friendship, mutual respect, and cooperation. We take pride in being the only High Performance Sports Residence on campus and celebrate the diversity and unique contributions of each member, promoting a sense of belonging. Our community is bound together by friendship and a commitment to excellence in academics and sports.

Our Motto

"A family bound by the ties of friendship."

The Trident

The trident is the symbol of honor and traditionally it is associated with Poseidon and Neptune, the Greek and Roman gods of the sea respectively. The highly praised gods, Poseidon and Neptune, were the 'providers' of rain and good fishing and perceived as honorable gods by the Greeks and Romans. The trident is the preferred representation of honor. The gods of the sea were renowned for their affiliation to the ocean and fish and a sacred weapon to fight off negativity, the trident is a best representation of family, unity and honor which are imperative to core principles of Huis Neethling and best complement Huis Neethling's badge.

Ethos

Huis Neethling strives to create a home away from home for every student. We aim to establish a family environment where respect, kindness and decency are fundamentally installed into every student that resides here.

Values

- Respect
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Ubuntu
- Excellence

Bound by the Ties of friendship

Message from the RESIDENT HEAD

A warm welcome to all our newcomers at Huis Neethling.

As residence head, it is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to Huis Neethling, the high-performance sports residence of Maties Sport. You are about to embark on an exciting journey where your passion for sports and commitment to academic excellence will come together, creating a unique and fulfilling experience.

Here, we value not only your performance on the field but also your growth as individuals. We believe that success in sports goes hand in hand with success in academics, and we are committed to supporting you in balancing both. Whether you're training for a big game, studying for exams, or pushing yourself to new heights, know that you are part of a community that strives for excellence in all areas of life.

But success isn't just about achievements, it's about building a culture—a culture that is built on teamwork, respect, and shared values. This residence is more than just a place to live, it's a place to form lifelong friendships, create unforgettable memories, and build a strong sense of family. As student-athletes, you'll learn to lean on one another, support each other through challenges, and celebrate each other's victories—both on the field and in the classroom.

Together, we'll create an environment where you feel motivated, inspired, and empowered to be the best version of yourselves. This year, as you develop not only your athletic skills but also your character and leadership, remember that you are part of a family that is here to help you grow, thrive, and succeed. Welcome to the start of a great adventure! Let's make it a year to remember!

Kind regards,

Sean
Surmon



Neethling

Message from the PRIMARIA

Dear, Huis Neethling Newcomer & Parents/Guardians

First and foremost, CONGRATULATIONS ON MAKING IT!

On behalf of the entire Huis Neethling, even our alumni, we are so proud of you for making it and being given the opportunity to become one of us. If you have not already, take a moment to pat yourself on the back for making it. Out of thousands of applications, you have been chosen to be part of a very special house. You are now a resident of the only High-Performance sport residence of Stellenbosch University and part of the Maties Sport student-athlete family



Here, we celebrate individuality, grow together, and build lifelong friendships. You will soon come to learn our house motto, "Bound By The Ties Of Friendship". Whether you're feeling nervous, excited, or somewhere in between, never forget that you belong here.

I'm here not just as a leader, but as someone who genuinely cares about each of you. My door (and heart!) is always open, whether you need a chat, a laugh, a debrief from some sport stress, to play some Xbox or just a quiet moment, never be afraid to knock on my door.

In the Huis Neethling family, it does not matter where you come from or who you were before; the thing that matters is that when you take your place in Huis Neethling, you will grasp every moment and honour it as best as you can. Your first year of university is completely in your hands, and how you write your story is up to you. As your new family, we cannot wait to support you on this journey.

Best regards

Mijeané Fryer



Message from the interim VICE-PRIMARIA

Dear Newcomer & Parents/Guardians

Welcome to the beginning of an unforgettable chapter. It is with genuine pleasure that we welcome you to Huis Neethling and to the broader community of Stellenbosch University. This moment marks the start of an experience that will shape not only your academic journey, but also your personal growth, your relationships, and the person you will become over the next few years.

Our residence strives to be more than just a place to sleep and study. It is a space where friendships form, ideas are exchanged, and individuals learn to live confidently and independently.

Our House Committee and Mentor Team are here to guide you and help you navigate this environment, whether you need help finding your way around campus, managing your time, or simply settling into your new living space. We encourage you to reach out, ask questions, and make use of the support systems available to you.

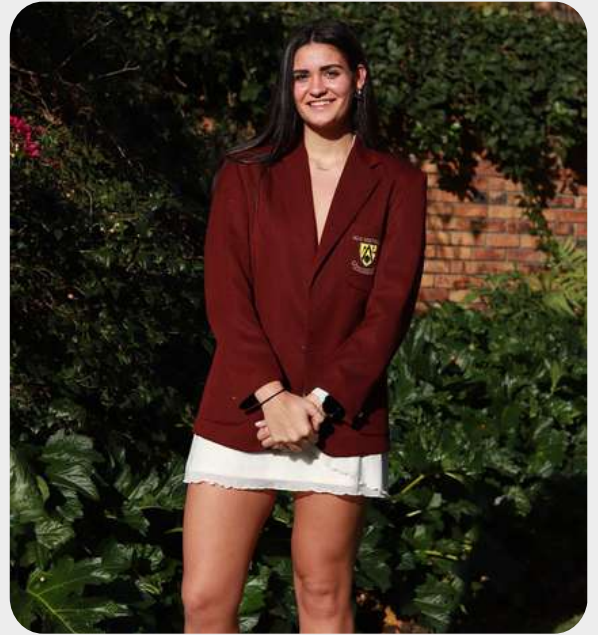
University is a rare opportunity to discover yourself. You will be exposed to new ways of thinking, new perspectives, and new possibilities. Get involved and participate in social and cultural activities, join teams or societies that interest you, and challenge yourself to step outside of your comfort zone.

Most importantly, allow yourself to grow. Growth looks different for everyone, sometimes it's loud and exciting, and sometimes it's quiet and gradual. Both are equally valuable. This residence is committed to creating an environment where you feel accepted, respected, and encouraged to become the best version of yourself.

We look forward to seeing the unique contributions each of you will bring to our community. May your journey here be one of discovery, connection, and memorable experiences. Welcome to your new home.

Best regards,

Michelle van der Merwe



2025/2026

HOUSE COMMITTEE

The House Committee (HC) is a team of elected leaders responsible for managing and leading Huis Neethling. In cooperation with the Residence Head, the HC oversees residence operations, promotes unity, and ensures effective administration by managing respective portfolios, to create a supportive and thriving community for all residents.





Mijeané

Fryer

Primaria

PORTFOLIOS

Primaria, maintenance, parking, food, room placements

My Advice

Your time in university will go past in a blink of an eye, so spend every moment to its fullest. You are about to embark on a journey like no other and with a group of people who want nothing but the best for you. Take everything in and never back down from a challenge, you're stronger than you think. I can't wait to have you part of the Neetas family.



Michelle

Van der Merwe

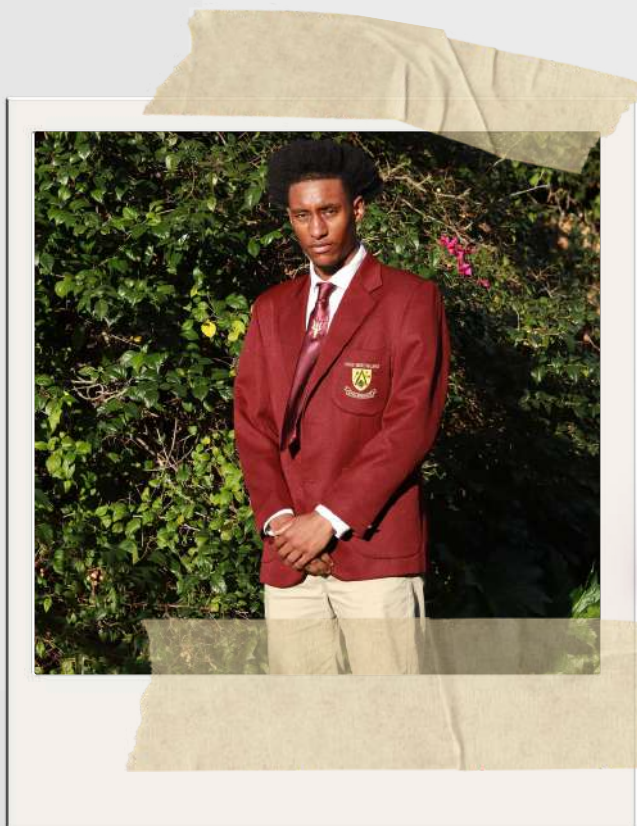
Vice-Primaria

PORTFOLIOS

Vice-Primaria, safety & security, media, discipline, women empowerment

My Advice

During your time at university you will laugh your loudest and cry your hardest. So, do things for the plot but remember the plot has consequences - some good, some bad but be so sure in every decision you make that you don't mind the outcome. Stay curious, build connections and embrace the journey.



Latitha

Buckland

Financial Manager

PORTFOLIOS

Finances, Door Monitors, Merchandise

My Advice

During Welcoming Week, you can expect a vibrant mix of events, teamwork, and social activities. It's all about meeting new people, exploring campus life, and feeling the true spirit of the Maties community.



Joshua

Reyneke


Head Mentor

PORTFOLIOS

Head mentor, social impact, socials, sustainability, Cluster

My Advice

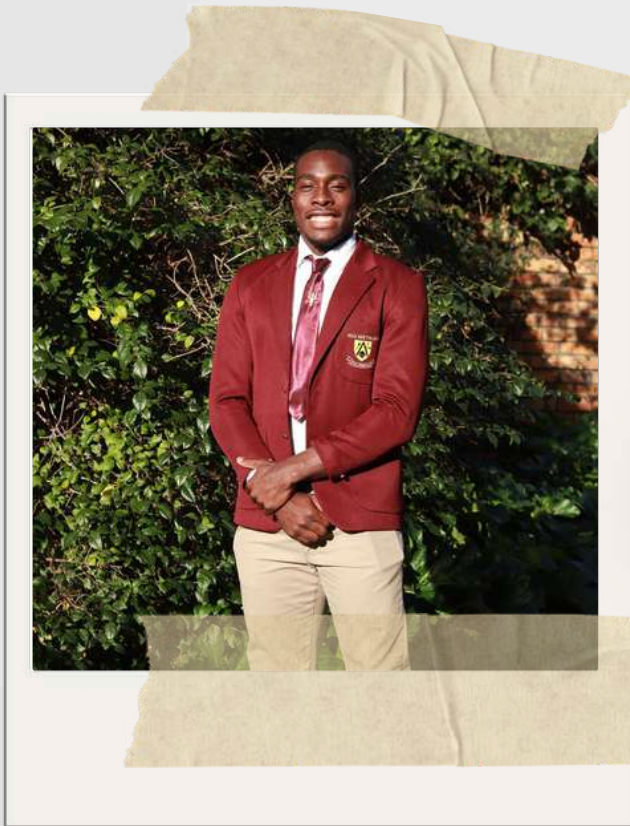
My advice to any Neetas newcomer is to do everything at 110%, even if you don't feel like doing it in the moment, make it happen. Be a part of something greater and do your part to the best of your ability. Two things in life are for sure: One is that the Bokke are the best rugby team on the planet, and the other is that there is no limit to excellence. Always strive for excellence beyond your imagination.

 josh_reyneke



Pretorius

Ekeji



PORTFOLIOS

Alumni, critical engagement, student well being

My Advice

First things first, university is not high school. There is no pressure on you to attend your classes, do extra work at home, or even to study. This is both a blessing and a curse because it simply means that you have the freedom to plan your studies to fit the lifestyle that you want to lead and you can plan around certain things a lot better than in high school, but it also means that it is your responsibility to weigh out your options and make the right decisions that will benefit you in your efforts to establish yourself in your career and in your journey of life.



Miriam

Ndjadi

PORTFOLIOS

Connect, media, welcoming leader, critical engagement

My Advice

Starting university as a student-athlete is a big step, stay focused, disciplined, and kind to yourself. Balance your studies, sport, and rest wisely. Surround yourself with people who uplift you, and remember why you started this journey. You're capable of more than you think.

Philippians 4:13

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."



Adam

October



PORTFOLIOS

Cluster, welcoming leader, socials, social impact

My Advice

At times, welcoming will feel long, and it will make you tired. But embrace it and enjoy it as much as you can, as the memories you make will be with you forever. You will become a tight-knit family with the other first years and build relationships that will last a lifetime. AVDN

MENTORS



Mentors, appointed by the Head Mentor, Primaria, and Residence Head, help first-year students adjust academically, socially, and emotionally. They assist during Welcoming Week, act as a communication link between students, the House Committee, and the university, and refer students to appropriate resources. Each newcomer will be appointed a mentor for the year and form part of a mentor group with other other newcomers.



Anathi Masondo

BSc Biodiversity and Ecology II

Hockey



Alulutho Adams

BA International Studies II

Hockey



Bianca Odendaal

BEd Foundation Phase III

Netball



Unathi Masondo

BCom Economic Sciences II

Hockey



Ayanda Mthombeni

BCom Accounting II

Basketball



Rynhardt van der Linden

BArts Human Resource
Management III

Rugby



Matthew Gabriel

BArts Human Resource
Management II

Rugby



Cullen Holland

BCom Management Sciences II

Swimming



WELCOMING WEEK

A glimpse into what to expect during Welcoming



WHAT TO BRING

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

- Acceptance Letter to Stellenbosch
- Registration
- Student Number and Identification Documents
- A valid study permit if you are not a South African Citizen
- Any other relevant document(s).

OTHER ITEMS

- A lock for your cupboard door.
- Sunblock
- Bedding, towels, washing powder, toiletries
- Medication (if required).
- Money for welcoming Merchandise bundle (Estimated R500)
- There will be a deli/tuck shop during the welcoming week, if you would like to bring extra cash.
- On-the-go snacks (jungle bars, energy bars, etc)
- Walking shoes (for a hike and walking around campus)
- Shower shoes
- Running shoes
- Water bottle
- Swimming costume.
- Good attitude & vibes

Please NOTE

It is suggested that there is only ONE MICROWAVE and ONE FRIDGE per room owing to space. It is advisable that you wait and discuss with your roommate first instead of doubling up.

All food will be provided to you during Welcoming, therefore, it is not particularly necessary during this time.



MOVE IN DAY

Huis Neethling's Welcoming Program will commence on Thursday, 28 January 2025. Move-in will take place between 09:00 and 11:30.

Our parents' meeting and a lunch for newcomers and parents will be held at 12:00.

We kindly request that each newcomer be accompanied by no more than two adults to assist with moving into the residence.

Additionally we encourage participants to all adhere strictly to all the scheduled times, as the program follows a tight timeline.





MEALS

During the Welcoming Program, there will be a station where you will receive a form from Fedics, Huis Neethling's catering provider, which must be completed and signed.

This form pertains to the meals you will receive throughout the welcoming period. The cost of these meals will be debited to your student account, so no payment will be required at the time of registration.

We do highly recommend bringing extra snacks to keep in your bag.

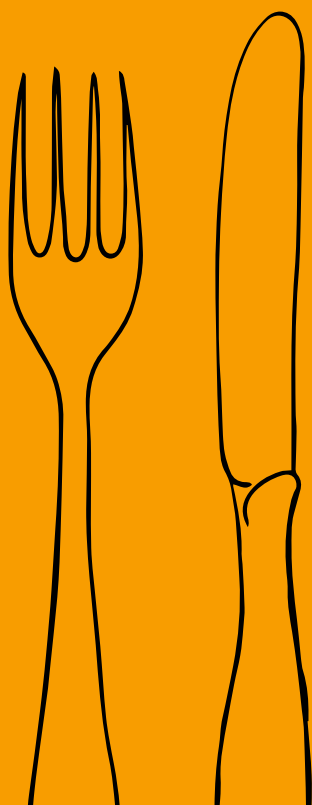
Three meal options are available:

Standard, Vegetarian, and Halal.

Please ensure you indicate your dietary requirements on the roommate questionnaire. If no preference is specified, the Standard option will be assigned by default.

All meals during the Welcoming Program (28 Jan-8 February) will be provided at the residence, and you will not need to bring your own food.

However, if you require meals at specific times due to medication schedules, please inform us in advance. While we will accommodate your needs, it remains your responsibility to carry your medication with you and take it as prescribed.



ROOMMATES



Roommate Allocation

Sharing a living space can be a new and potentially challenging experience for some. At Huis Neethling, we prioritise creating an environment that feels like home.

Since a roommate can significantly influence your experience, I kindly ask you to complete the roommate questionnaire and personality quiz below:

(1) <https://forms.office.com/r/kmUcwjiA0S>

(2) <https://www.16personalities.com/free-personality-test>Test

Please email your results of the quiz with the subject Newcomer Roommates – Name & Surname to our Head Mentor, Joshua Reyneke. The results obtained will also be used in pairing you with a mentor for the year.

It is essential that you email a copy of your quiz results and complete the roommate form as honestly as possible to ensure the best possible match.

Upon your arrival on move-in day, a room will be allocated, and your room key will be provided to you, whereby you will be introduced to your roommate.

Communication

All communication regarding the Welcoming Program will be conducted via email and WhatsApp. A dedicated WhatsApp group for newcomers will be created to ensure you receive timely updates and information throughout the Welcoming period. If you have any questions or require assistance with room allocations, or anything room-related, please do not hesitate to contact our HC members.



JOSHUA REYNEKE

|Head Mentor

 060 987 8018

 29531071@sun.ac.za

 josh_reyneke



PLEASE NOTE

Stellenbosch is a multilingual university, and many different languages are spoken at Huis Neethling. Translation services will be provided as needed.

The Welcoming period is a busy time, during which first-year students will engage in academic orientation and various other activities.

Stellenbosch experiences high temperatures during January and February. It is recommended that you bring sufficient sunblock, water, and a fan for your room.

Three meals a day will be provided during the Welcoming Week.

Special dietary requirements will be accommodated.

Important Note: Please ensure that you store your valuables (such as cell phones, jewellery, etc.) securely. We will move around frequently throughout the day. The Leadership Team cannot assume responsibility for any lost or misplaced items.

This booklet has been compiled to provide you with all the essential information regarding the Welcoming period at Huis Neethling, including a list of items to bring and an overview of the structures at Huis Neethling and Stellenbosch University. We hope this will help ease your transition and provide you with the clarity you need.

CLUSTER NEWCOMERS

ATHLETICS DAY

COETZENBURG ATHLETICS
STADIUM

5 FEBRUARY 2026 17:30 - 20:30



PRESENTED BY THE CENTRE FOR
STUDENT LIFE AND LEARNING AND
MATIES SPORT



Welcome to

amaMATIES



WHAT IS A CLUSTER?

A cluster is a grouping of residences and commuter student communities (CSCs), who together form a broader community where students can interact and collaborate with one another, making the university 'smaller'. It is the organizing principle for academic and social affairs.

WHO ARE WE?

amaMaties Cluster is made up of five residences: Erica, Serruria, Nemesia, Helderberg, and Huis Neethling, and two CSCs: Capri and Equité. We are one of the most active clusters on campus and enjoy hosting joint events and making use of our shared spaces.

OUR VALUES

Our cluster values are Ubuntu, Respect, Empowerment, Sense of Belonging and Individuality

amaMATIES Facilities

The amaMaties Cluster HUB facility is the physical base of our cluster and provides a gathering space and commons for the students of our cluster, ensuring a world class living and learning environment. This multifunctional space provides students with an area to meet, study, relax, and engage with each other between classes and other commitments.



The **HUB facilities** include:

- Study and relaxation area
- Tinie Louw dining hall
- Plug points for laptops and cell phones
- Early morning or late dining at the DELI
- Emergency backpacker rooms
- Maties Wi-Fi access (24/7)
- Lockers

Dear new Matie

You are now officially part of amaMaties Cluster. This is where your community becomes a part of something bigger. We are a vibrant, diverse and integrated student community – a space for not only pursuing knowledge but also forging lifelong friendships and experiences, a space that helps you come to the realization that self-awareness is the key to social change. We encourage you to embrace this diversity and seize the chance to learn from one another. Your learning journey is no longer confined to the lecture hall, so take advantage of all that the cluster has to offer. Your time at Stellenbosch University is a precious chapter in your life: Embrace it with an open heart and an eager mind – so that you, in turn, may become an integrated person who can take on the world with confidence, collaboration and compassion. Cherish the moments of discovery, the late-night study sessions (at the amaMaties Hub), the laughter with friends and the growth that comes with every challenge. Here's to meet you all and to the fantastic journey ahead.

All the best,
The amaMaties Cluster Team

Benita van Zyl



Cluster Education
Co-ordinator
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Tetelo Rapheeha



Cluster Convener
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Lyanda Dlamini



Social Media Manager
27242986@sun.ac.za
068 712 1727

Beste nuwe Matie

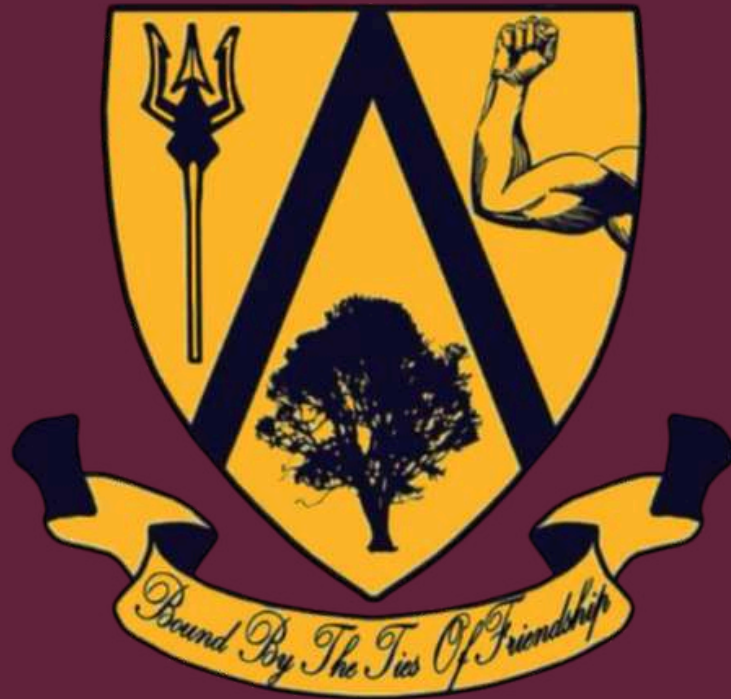
Jy is nou amptelik deel van amaMaties. Dis waar jou gemeenskap deel van iets groters raak. Ons is 'n lewenskragtige, diverse en geïntegreerde studentegemeenskap – 'n ruimte waar ons nie net kennis najaag nie, maar ook lewenslange vriendskappe smee en ervarings deel; 'n ruimte wat jou tot die besef help kom dat selfbewussyn die sleutel tot sosiale verandering is. Ons moedig jou aan om hierdie diversiteit te omarm en die kans aan te gryp om by mekaar te leer. Jou leerervaring is nie meer tot die klaskamer beperk nie; haal dus die meeste uit alles wat die kluster jou bied. Jou tyd aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch is 'n kosbare hoofstuk in jou lewe: Omarm dit met 'n oop gemoed en 'n leergierige gesindheid – sodat jy, op jou beurt, 'n geïntegreerde persoon kan raak wat die wêreld met selfvertroue, samewerking en deernis aanpak. Koester die oomblikke van ontdekking, die laatnagstudiesessies (by die amaMaties Hub), die saam lag met vriende en die groei wat elke uitdaging bring. Ons tel die dae af totdat ons julle almal ontmoet en ons fantastiese reis begin.

Alles van die beste,
Die amaMaties Klusterspan

Matie omtsha othandekayo,

Kungoku nje ungomnye weeMaties ngokusemthethweni. Kulapha ke apho niluluntu labafundi nijika nibe yinxalenyeyento engaphezulwana noko. Siluluntu lwabafundi olugcwele udlamko, olwahlukahlukeneyo nolunxibeleleneyo – le yindawo engeyiyo eyokuzingela ulwazi kuphela koko ikwayindawo yokwakha ubuhlobo bobomi bonke namava ngokunjalo, indawo ekunceda ekubeni uyiqonde into yokuba ukuzazi ngoyena ndoqokwiinguqu entlalweni. Siya kukhuthaza ukuba ukwamkele oku kwahlukahlukana kambe ulithi xhakamfu ithuba lokufunda omnye komnye. Ihambo yakho yemfundo ayisaphelelenga nje kwiholo yeelektsha, ngako oko kunqakule konke le klasta enokukunika kona. Ixesha lakho kwiyunivesithi yaseStellenbosch sisigaba esinexabiso elikhulu ebomini bakho: Lamkele ngentliziyo ekhululekileyo nengqondo enxanelwe ulwazi – ukuze wena, ngokunjalo, ube nokuba ngumntu onxityelelekisiweyo onokujongana nehlabathi ngokuzithemba, ngentsibenziswano nangovelwano. Yivuyele loo mizuzwana yokubhaqa okutsha, ukufunda kude kube sezinzulwini zobusuku (phaya kwiMaties Hub), ukuhleka nabahlobo nokukhula okuza nomngeni ngamnye. Sithi ngxatsho ngokwazana kwethu sonke nangohambo lwethu oluya kusikhwankqisa ekuhambeni kwexesha.

Ngemibuliso emihle, LiQela
leQoqo lamaMaties



B O U N D B Y T H E T I E S O F F R I E N D S H I P

G E H E G D E U R D I E B A N D E V A N V R I E N D S K A P

U K U B O T S H W A N G A M A Q H I N A O B U H L O B O