



Criteria for merit awards and prizegiving 2026

GENERAL MERIT GUIDELINES

- A learner receives only the highest award per activity annually.
- When a learner receives a merit award for the first time, he/she is given a silver scroll for the particular activity to be applied to the school blazer.
- When a merit award is given for the second time, the learner will receive recognition at the merit event in the form of a diploma confirming that the merit was awarded a second time.
- Should the learner earn a merit for the third successive time for the same activity, he/she qualifies for honours colours. The learner receives a gold scroll that replaces the silver scroll on the blazer, and may purchase an honours tie and an honours pocket crest to apply to the blazer pocket.
- The merit policy is reviewed and amended from time to time.
- Awards for individual achievements that are not included among the merit criteria will be considered by the merit committee in accordance with the general guidelines.
- The final decision regarding awards lies with the organisers and the merit committee.
- Recognition according to the criteria of this policy applies only to achievements that are accomplished in 2026 and cannot be backdated. Learners who have earned merit awards for three consecutive years therefore qualify for honours colours provided that 2026 is the third year.

MERIT EVENTS

Continuous

Qualifying learners in Grades 4 to 7 will be awarded on a continuous basis during school assemblies. At these events learners will receive their silver scrolls (merit awards) or gold scrolls (honours colours). In the case of honours colours, the learner will receive a note giving him/her permission to purchase an honours tie and an honours pocket crest from the school clothing shop. Gold scrolls replace silver scrolls. A learner may not wear both a silver and a gold scroll for the same category. Thus a learner can wear a maximum of three scrolls at once.

Annual prizegiving

1. Governing Body Awards

Governing Body Awards are handed out at this event for first, second and third places overall in accredited national or international competitions, or in national competitions that the learner had entered via the school.

2. Academic Awards

Top 20 grade achievements and top three subject achievements are also recognised.

3. Trophies

The following trophies are awarded at the annual prizegiving:

- **The Van der Walt Culture Trophy** is awarded to a learner who has impressed with his/her participation in a wide variety of cultural activities at the school.



- **The Wasserfall Music Trophy** is awarded to the learner who has achieved the highest standard in Music.
- **The Volschenk Sport Trophy for Girls** goes to a girl who has received prestigious awards in a variety of sport codes.
- **The Staff Sport Trophy for Boys** goes to a boy who has received prestigious awards in a variety of sport codes.
- **The Governing Body Shield for Club Sport** is awarded to the learner who has accomplished the highest achievement in club sport or who has excelled in a variety of sport codes at club level.
- **The Management Team Trophy for Exceptional Achievement** is awarded to a learner whose individual achievement is of such nature that it brings Gene Louw Primary School great honour and glory.
- **The JS Lochner Shield for Versatility** is awarded to a learner in Grade 4 who has achieved in a variety of fields.
- **The AC van der Westhuizen Shield for Versatility** is awarded to a learner in Grade 5 who has achieved in a variety of fields.
- **The Albrecht Shield for Versatility** is awarded to a learner in Grade 6 who has achieved in a variety of fields.
- **The Gene Louw Shield for Versatility** is awarded to a learner in Grade 7 who has achieved in a variety of fields.
- **The Governing Body Trophy for Culture** is awarded to the learner who has accomplished the highest cultural achievements outside of the school.

The committee may introduce additional trophies prior to the prizegiving ceremony to give acknowledgement to more learners.

MR WAJ GOUWS
PRINCIPAL

DATE: 26 JANUARY 2026



Ons Strewe - na liefde, geloof en kennis. **We Strive** - for love, faith and knowledge.



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	Merit award	Silver merit scroll placed below school crest on blazer pocket
	Honours colours	Gold merit scroll placed below school crest on blazer pocket, honours tie and honours colours crest applied
	Criteria for merit award	Criteria for honours colours
SPORT		
School sport Rugby Sevens Rugby Hockey Cricket Netball Tennis Chess Mountain biking	Represents the school first team in two sport codes. 50% participation or formal inauguration by coaches.	WP team
Athletics/Cross-country	Represents the school first team in two sport codes. 50% participation or formal inauguration by coaches.	WP Athletics team (participation at the Western Cape Championships)
External sport such as karate; wrestling, swimming, gymnastics	WP colours	First or second place at SA Championships qualifies; only open divisions and not beginner/intermediary; a minimum of five competitors per category. Proof of achievement and registration with a national governing body has to be presented. Final approval lies with merit committee.
External team sport such as ice hockey; indoor netball, cricket or hockey	WP team	
Other external sport codes	Learners who attain provincial colours from a national body and participate at the official national championships qualify. Proof of achievement and registration with a national governing body has to be presented. Final approval lies with merit committee.	First or second place at SA Championships qualifies. Proof of achievement and registration with a national governing body has to be presented. Final approval lies with merit committee.



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DANCE (SPORT)		
Dance Modern Tap Hip-hop Acrobatic	Represent province at national level at Talent Africa National Competition and achieve silver (live performance) or gold (virtual performance).	Represent South Africa at Stars of the Universe and achieve gold.
ACADEMIC BALLET		
Grade 6/7/8/ Intermediary foundation/	80-100%	
Intermediary/ Advanced foundation	75-84%	85-100%
Advanced I	70-74%	75-100%
CECHETTI BALLET		
Grade 5	80%+	
Intermediary	75%+	
Intermediary	75-79%	80-100%
Advanced I		75%+
Advanced II		70%+
AIDT/ISTD MODERN DANCING		
Pre-elementary (sol	85-89%	
Elementary (solo)	80-84%	85-100%
Intermediary	75-79%	85-100%
Advanced (solo)		80-100%
SADTA/SABOD HIP-HOP		
Level 4/10	85-89%	90-100%
Level 5/11	85-89%	90-100%
Level 6/12	85-89%	90-100%
ACADEMICS		
Grade 4	Achieves an average of 86% or higher for Term 1-3	
Grade 5	Achieves an average of 86% or higher for Term 4 of Grade 4 + Term 1-3 of Grade 5	
Grade 6	Achieves an average of 84% or higher for Term 4 of Grade 5 + Term 1-3 of Grade 6	Attains academic merit awards in Grades 4, 5 and 6
Grade 7	Achieves an average of 82% or higher for Term 4 of Grade 6 + Term 1-3 of Grade 7	Attains academic merit awards in Grades 5, 6 and 7
The approval of academic merit awards for learners who did not attend Gene Louw Primary School for a term or more lies at the discretion of the merit committee.		



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ACADEMICS: COMPETITIONS AND OLYMPIADS		
Horizon/SA Maths Challenge	Top five (national)	National winner
Other academic competitions	A top five position overall in a national competition qualifies. Proof of achievement and registration with a national governing body has to be presented. Final approval lies with merit committee.	The overall winner of a national competition qualifies. Proof of achievement and registration with a national governing body has to be presented. Final approval lies with merit committee.
CULTURE		
Music	If a learner meets both of the following requirements:	If a learner achieves at least 90% for any two of the following:
	- Achieves 80% or higher in any instrumental exam – Piano, Guitar, Recorder (Trinity, Unisa, LCM) - Achieves 80% or higher in a theory exam (Trinity, Unisa)	- Instrumental exam – Piano, Classical Guitar, Recorder etc. (Trinity, Unisa, LCM) - Theory exam (Trinity, Unisa) - Musical theatre exam (Trinity, LCM)
Choir		Senior choir: Overall winner – ATKV Applous choir competition.
Eisteddfods	Individual and group participation: Trophy winner Please note: Recognition is only given if there were a minimum of five participants/groups in the division.	- A learner who is a trophy winner in three consecutive years. - Winner of a national competition that the learner had entered via the school. Please note: Recognition is only given if there were a minimum of five participants/groups in the division.
Art competitions	A learner who is a category winner (i.e. wins a trophy or medal). Please note: Only individual participation in approved competitions will be taken into account.	- A learner who is a category winner in three consecutive years. - Winner of a national competition that the learner had entered via the school.
Public speaking Con Spirito Oppi-Tong-Af ATKV	Second or third place in a national competition. Please note: Online participation does not qualify. Only participation and achievements in approved competitions are taken into account.	- A learner who is a category winner in three consecutive years. - Winner of a national competition that the learner had entered via the school.
Theatre	A learner who is a member of a theatre group that ends among the top three in a regional competition (minimum of two rounds).	- A learner who is a category winner in an approved national competition, for example ATKV, Filmit. - A learner who, as a member of a theatre group, achieves first, second or third place in the final round of an approved national competition, for example ATKV. - A learner who ends among the top three in an approved national competition, for example ATKV,
Voortrekkers	"Voorslag" award	
Scouts	"Springbok Scout" award	