

Issue: **01**, 2025

# NEWSLETTER

SAALED

In this issue:

Welcome...1.

Proposed Webinars and Seminar...2-4

In closing... 4

## Membership fees for 2025:

Each School's or Individual's Annual Membership will expire on 31 December 2024.

Subscription fees and Webinar rates for 2025.

#### **School Annual Membership fee:**

R2250.00 and entitles 6 teachers to join the webinars and seminar at the member rate.

#### **Individual Annual Membership fee:**

R330.00 and entitles you to join all events at the member rate.

Webinar fees for non-members: R310.00 per webinar

5% of all bookings will be donated to an Outreach School.

Schools/individuals who are in need, please reach out to SAALED and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Please liaise with your school and make payment as soon as possible.

#### **BANK DETAILS:**

**S A ASSOC FOR LEARNING** 

**First National Bank** 

Account No: 62046846020

Branch code: 250655

Please ensure that your name/school's name appears on any deposit notification.

Dear SAALED Members and Friends,

Happy New Year! We are thrilled to step into another year filled with opportunities to learn, grow, and make a meaningful difference. As we embark on this journey together, we are excited to announce an inspiring lineup of webinars and our annual seminar designed to empower and support educators, parents and professionals alike.

Please be reminded to renew or take up your SAALED membership to continue enjoying the exclusive benefit of discounted rates for our professional development offerings. Your support enables us to sustain our mission of inclusivity and excellence in education.

Let's make 2025 a year of connection, collaboration and positive impact.

Have a look at our calendar below, which provides details for our engaging Webinars and Seminar, offering valuable insights and practical strategies to enhance learning experiences for all children.









SAALED 2024

# **Proposed SAALED Webinars and Seminar Events for 2025:**



Webinar
11 February 2025
Presented by Kirsten Simeonides &

Jessica Muller
from Crawford International Sandton
Preparatory School

# Mathematics- Playing with Numbers in Preparatory School

During the session, participants will discover practical techniques for integrating play-based learning into their Mathematics lessons. These techniques include using practical and real-world scenarios that encourage exploration and curiosity. By shifting away from traditional rote learning to more interactive and experiential methods, teachers can create an environment where students are excited about math and take ownership of their learning.

The webinar will also highlight how play enhances key mathematical skills such as number sense, spatial awareness, and logical reasoning. Teachers will learn how to design playful activities that align with curriculum goals, helping students grasp foundational concepts while having fun. Furthermore, participants can expect to explore the role of collaborative play, demonstrating how group activities can not only reinforce mathematical understanding but also build social and communication skills.



Webinar 11 March 2025

Presented by Senior Mathematics Teacher, Ian Atteridge from Steyn City College

# The BIG M (Mathematics for Teenagers)

In this webinar, Ian Atteridge aims to explore the transition between Grades for a Teenager and Teacher who need support in Mathematics. The transition from middle school to high school can be a challenging period for both students and teachers, particularly in the subject of mathematics. In response to the growing demand for effective support, SAALED is hosting this webinar designed for mathematics teachers working with teenagers. The aim of this session is to help teachers better equip their students for the rigorous academic expectations they will encounter in high school.

The webinar will provide a comprehensive overview of the key concepts, skills, and problem-solving strategies that the school mathematics curricula typically emphasize.



13 May 2025

Presented by René Levinge-Lang and Tammy Letcher from St Peter's Boys Preparatory School

# **Assisting Teacher Assistants**

Join us for an insightful session designed to empower Teachers and Teacher Assistants with practical strategies and guidance to enhance their effectiveness in the classroom. This interactive session, presented by René Levinge-Lang and Tammy Letcher from St Peter's Boys Preparatory School, is designed to empower both Teacher Assistants and the teachers who work closely with them. The role of a Teacher Assistant is vital in supporting learners and ensuring a smooth classroom environment. However, effective collaboration between teachers and assistants is essential for maximizing learning outcomes. Every child matters – and so does every assistant who helps them succeed.

SAALED 2024 2



**29 May 2025**Presented by Gill Illsley- Educational
Psychologist

Webinar



Seminar & AGM
25 June 2025
Presented by
Frances Kaplan
& Megan TrickeyEducational Psychologists



Webinar
5 August 2025
Presented by Sanele Majola-

Headmaster at St Stithian's Boys Preparatory School

# Myth busting with Referrals

Educational Psychologist, Gill Illsley, will share her insights on the topic of "Challenging the Myths Around Referrals".

Referrals to specialists such as educational psychologists, speech therapists and occupational therapists are often misunderstood by both parents and educators. Many believe that seeking a referral is a last resort, implying failure in teaching or parenting. However, Gill will break down these misconceptions and offer a new perspective on the value of early intervention and support through the referral process. She aims to share her expertise on how referrals are not about labeling or limiting learners but are, in fact, a critical step toward unlocking their potential. This session is invaluable for teachers, parents and caregivers who want to understand the referral process better and how to use it as a tool for positive intervention in a child's educational journey. Don't miss this opportunity to gain practical insights and join the conversation about demystifying referrals and ensuring that every learner gets the support they need to thrive.

# **Neurodiversity in the Mainstream Classroom**

The seminar titled "Neurodiversity in the Mainstream Classroom" presented by Frances Kaplan and Megan Trickey aims to equip educators with practical strategies to embrace neurodiversity in their classrooms. As schools continue to welcome learners with a variety of neurological differences, it is essential for educators to move beyond traditional, one-size-fits-all teaching methods and adopt approaches that celebrate each child's unique way of thinking, learning, and engaging with the world. Neurodiversity recognizes that conditions such as ADHD, autism, dyslexia and dyspraxia, to name a few, are natural variations of the human mind, rather than deficits. This paradigm shift encourages educators to see the strengths that accompany these differences and to create learning environments that nurture all learners' potential. The seminar will provide participants with tools to identify and support these strengths while addressing the challenges students may face in the classroom. The session will explore ways to develop inclusive, flexible learning environments that foster academic growth, emotional well-being, and a sense of belonging for all students.

# **Inclusivity and Positivity at Schools**

The webinar "Inclusivity and Positivity at Schools," presented by Sanele Majola, explores the crucial role that creating an inclusive and positive school environment plays in fostering student success and well-being. In diverse educational settings, where learners come from different cultural, social, and academic backgrounds, inclusivity is essential to ensuring that every student feels valued, respected, and supported. Sanele will highlight the importance of cultivating a school culture that embraces diversity and promotes acceptance. The session will focus on practical strategies for building relationships that are rooted in empathy and understanding, both between educators and learners, and among students themselves. Participants will learn how inclusive practices can positively impact academic outcomes, emotional wellbeing, and social interactions. A key aspect of the webinar will be promoting positivity within the school environment.

SAALED 2024 3



Webinar 18 September 2025 Presented by Gavin Fish-Life Coach and Mentor

# Teacher Support & Leadership

Gavin Fish will present an engaging and insightful webinar on "Teacher Support and Leadership," designed to empower educators and school leaders with strategies to enhance teaching and learning outcomes and environments. The webinar will emphasize the pivotal role of leadership in fostering an environment where teachers feel supported, valued and motivated to deliver their best. The webinar will explore practical strategies that school leaders may want to implement. By embodying empathy, transparency and vision, leaders will inspire teachers to excel and contribute to a thriving educational community. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences and challenges, fostering a collaborative atmosphere aimed at building support.



Webinar
30 October 2025

Presented by Xoli Mahlangu- Head of
Digital Learning at Sifiso
Learning Group

# Using Tech and AI in the Classroom

Xoli Mahlangu will present an engaging and thought-provoking webinar "Tech and AI," aimed at exploring the transformative impact of artificial intelligence (AI) and emerging technologies on various contexts. This session will attract professionals, students and tech enthusiasts eager to understand how AI can drive innovation, improve efficiency, and create new opportunities in the classroom and beyond. Participants can look forward to interactive activities, showcasing practical applications of AI in real-world scenarios. Attendees will have the opportunity to brainstorm how they might leverage AI within their spaces, fostering a sense of collaboration and innovation.

These events may be subject to change based on circumstances that may be unforeseen. This will be communicated in advance and closer to the time, as needed.

### In Closing

We look forward to connecting with you at our upcoming webinars and events. Remember, renewing your membership not only grants you access to exclusive benefits but also supports the work we do together.

As we begin this promising new year, let us continue to inspire one another with our shared commitment to inclusivity and educational excellence. Together, we can create environments where every child is valued and empowered to reach their fullest potential.

Thank you for being a vital part of the SAALED community. Your dedication, participation and support enable us to grow stronger and make a meaningful impact in the lives of learners and educational professionals alike.

Here's to a year of growth, collaboration and success!

Warm wishes,
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SAALED 2024 4