

MESSAGE OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE MATRIC CLASS OF 2026 BY PREMIER DR
PHOPHI RAMATHUBA

ONLINE PROVINCIAL PRAYER SESSION | 12 OCTOBER 2026

My dear sons and daughters, the Matric Class of 2026,

Greetings to you all. As you gather for this online prayer session, right on the threshold of your final examinations, we want you to take a deep, calming breath.

We know this season brings about a sense of consternation, anxiety and pressure. It is completely normal to feel the weight of the moment. But we want to remind you of a profound truth: you are not unprepared and you are never alone.

Look back over the past twelve years of your schooling. Look at the dedication of your teachers, the prayers of your parents and above all, your own resilience. You have already done the heavy lifting. Now is the time to trust yourselves, to believe in your own capacity and to stand tall in your abilities.

As you step into the final stretch, guard your minds against fear and panic. Do not let doubt steal the confidence you have built through months and years of hard work. Give maximum effort to your reading, your revision and your preparation. But please, remember to rest in between. A tired mind cannot perform at its best; balanced rest is just as vital as rigorous studying.

Look at your predecessors. Last year, the Class of 2025 raised our provincial flag high by achieving an outstanding pass rate of over 86%. They proved to the entire country that Limpopo's children are unstoppable when they set their minds to a goal. They showed us that excellence is not a fluke - it is a habit and it is entirely doable.

Now, the baton has been handed to you, the Class of 2026. I have no doubt that you have what it takes not only to maintain that standard, but to surpass it. Write your exams with courage, focus and determination. Make yourselves proud, make your families proud and make Limpopo proud.

We are praying for you, we believe in you and we are walking this journey with you every step of the way.

Go out there and conquer. I wish you the very best.