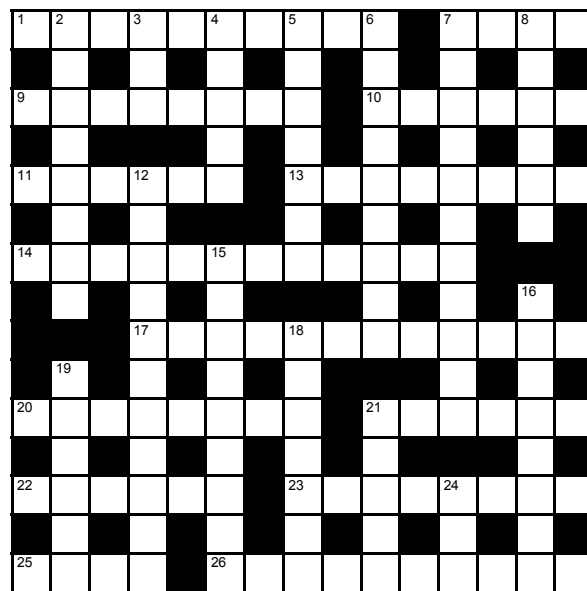


Across

- 1 An essential feature of Verstappen dice - somatically - was supplements (10)
- 7 Sunset dust - when the last elephant makes way for the first krokodil (4)
- 9 No time to excite parrot (8)
- 10 Equate speech to slow-growing crusty plant (6)
- 11 Tackle school about bad art (6)
- 13 Join in and play a role (4,4)
- 14 A very soft fish blasted by golf stroke (8,4)
- 17 Nobody directed son inside finally, oddly it was not absolutely necessary (12)
- 20 Small copper gets vinyl to right artist (8)
- 21 It can ruin retirement so pray about developing bud (3,3)
- 22 Agent brought back after pathetic Jumbo (6)
- 23 Many don't need book at first; education is being able to do arithmetic (8)
- 25 Churn inside, amidst irritation (4)
- 26 Keeps top first communion (4,6)



- 19 Fringes of overenthusiastic trendy group invite the supernatural (6)
- 21 Blows up balloons, banks, around wild mob (5)
- 24 Tear into sad farewell (3)

Down

- 2 Injured hip and cheek accompanying detective in Cape Town area (8)
- 3 Fumed about wings being chopped off bird (3)
- 4 The ad spells the end (5)
- 5 Loathe coming up after revolutionary speedster (7)
- 6 Stay well, South Africa - 1/3 laughs, 2/5 kaput, and mostly hale! (4,5)
- 7 Sliced top off accumulated funds (not pounds) and original takings in action (11)
- 8 Woman sits on posh car with ultimate larney drink (6)
- 12 Early inhabitant was regular satyr and then, with change of heart, loser (11)
- 15 A woman made true hearty salad without any dressing (2,7)
- 16 Airline guest loses second empty toilette roll (8)
- 18 Jumps to get into Gauteng living area (7)