NORTHDENE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER 2 / 2022

1 February 2022

Dear Parents,

We are so grateful for the supportive parents we have and for your understanding shown to the school during the last 2 weeks that we had to go on the rotational system. As a school we know that it has not been easy on parents or staff and we applaud the effort made by all and the resilience shown.

As you are aware, Cabinet approved changes to the adjusted Level 1 Covid regulations last night. One of the changes was that the regulatory distancing of 1 m between learners in class has been removed and schools will return to daily attendance. We had official confirmation from the Department of Education this morning that we may go ahead and **bring all our learners back as of tomorrow, Wednesday 2 February**. We are ecstatic that all our learners may return!

Please note the following:

(a) Dropping off and collecting learners

- Traffic around the school will be busier as of tomorrow morning. Please be courteous and patient on the roads surrounding the school. If there is a parking space available, make use of this and refrain from double parking as to avoid traffic jams.
- Gates open at 7h00 for learners. Morning Care is still available at Strelitzia House from 6h15.
- Staff on duty at the gates leave the gates at 7h30 in the mornings as to prepare for the first lesson. Learners arriving after 7h30 need to be dropped off at the front gate. Please ensure that learners arrive by 7h30 as it is very disruptive if they arrive and the first lesson has already started.

(b) Class time tables

- Tomorrow when learners return we will fall back on our weekly timetable and follow the Wednesday lessons.
- Learners are to bring all their text- and workbooks back to school with them.

(c) PE and extra-curricular activities

- There will obviously be changes to the extra-curricular time table. An updated time table will be uploaded on the D6 by the end of this week.

- Class PE lessons will resume as per individual time tables for all classes on Monday, 7 February. PE is part of Life Skills / Life Orientation and is assessed. The Sport Co-ordinators are unable to assess learners who do not take part in PE and these learners will therefore receive "0". This will affect the learner's Life Skills / Life Orientation marks negatively.
- If a learner is unwell and unable to participate in a particular PE lesson, a letter from the parent is required on the relative PE day.

- We have spent a lot of money fixing the school swimming pool at the end of last year and the beginning of January this year. It is a salt chlorinated pool which means that it is not as harsh on the skin and eyes. We have the water tested on a regular basis as to maintain the correct levels.
- Please check on the D6 under Resources: Sport for the letter "Swimwear reminder" for clarity regarding swimming costumes.

(d) Class WhatsApp groups

- If a message is posted, parents don't need to acknowledge the message or reply unless you are specifically required to do so. Some of our parents are on 3 different class WhatsApp groups and every time there is a post, data is used.
- Please do not send messages on the group or directly to the educator between 18h00 and 06h00.
- Ensure that you read the D6 Communicator on a regular basis as posts will not necessarily be posted to the WhatsApp group.

Sponsorship

The Governing Board and Staff would like to thank Vuma and Cool Ideas for sponsoring our fibre connection at school. This sponsorship assists our educators with the planning and teaching of lessons and enables us as a school to run smoothly.

Looking forward to a productive year for Northdene Preparatory School!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Tomlinson
Acting Principal