
MULBARTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter 19 of 2021

28 June 2021

“For I will restore health to you and heal you of your wounds,” says the LORD” ~ Jeremiah 30:17

From the Principal’s Desk

Our apologies for the disruption in schooling last week. We had received late notification from the GDE that all staff (throughout our district) had to urgently go to get their covid-19 vaccines at various centres. Unfortunately, we had very limited time for planning. Furthermore, these vaccines resulted in staff experiencing unforeseen side effects. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Please note that school will close this Wednesday, 30 June for the mid-year holidays. There are still some assessments that need to be written in the next three days. Learners who are sick and have been absent will get to write their assessments after the holidays. Term 2 reports will also be issued after the holidays. You will be notified accordingly. Learners will be dismissed at normal times for the next three days.

Parents, please note that the covid-19 infection rate is drastically increasing in our country and province and our school has also been negatively affected. We all need to be extra cautious and vigilant so that we can minimize the transmissions. In the past month, we have had 7 staff members and 9 learners that have tested positive for covid-19. I have also tested positive for covid-19 and am in quarantine. There are also a number of parents that have tested positive for covid-19 and their children are in isolation as well. With every case that is reported to the school, it is reported to the health authorities and the GDE and we thereafter follow the guidelines as stipulated by the DoH and GDE. We once again stress not to send sick children to school. Those learners who display symptoms should remain at home and be tested. Also, should a parent or family member display any symptoms and are being tested, we request that the child/children also remain at home until such time as the test results are available – please inform the school immediately of the results. If a parent or family member tests positive, then the child/ren should also isolate for 10 days even if the child shows no symptoms – if symptoms develop later, then these children must be tested as well. Please continue to keep our school, our community, and our country in your prayers.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Pepper on the birth of their new baby boy. We wish them all the joy and happiness with the new addition to their family.

On a sad note, we will be bidding farewell to Miss K. Kinsella who is moving to the Western Cape. We want to extend a big thank you to Miss Kinsella for all her input into the lives of our learners, staff and parents and for all her contribution and hard work at Mulbarton

Primary School. We pray God's guiding Hands over her as she enters the next chapter of her life. Please note that Miss T. Motaung will be teaching the Grade R class from next term.

Covid-19 Procedure for Grades R-7 Learners:

- MASKS ARE COMPULSORY. If your child has no mask – children will NOT be allowed to enter the school premises. Please ensure that your children's masks are clearly labelled with their name, surname and grade. No buffs to be worn. Disposable masks will be sold at a cost of R10.
- There are three entrances to the school for learners – 2 on ARCHIBALD AVENUE (1 for Grade R and 1 for Grades for 1-3) and 1 on Dalbini Road (for Grades 4-7). No parents will be allowed to enter onto the school premises.
- When learners arrive at school their temperature will be taken by staff members.
- If children's temperatures are above 38°C, the secretary will telephone parents to fetch the learners. However we impress upon parents/guardians/drivers to wait outside the school until their children have passed the screening process. Please educate your child on the various screening questions that they will be asked by the educators at the screening tables so that children are not confused by these questions.
- Learners who have a high temperature during the day will be taken to an **isolation area**. Parents are advised to take such children for an immediate check-up to their doctor.
- Strict social distancing will be observed (use red markers on the ground) – while queuing, while walking as well as while lining up in the line-up area.
- Learners will not move from class to class for change-over of subjects – teachers will move.
- Each class has a section in the school where they will be sitting during lunch breaks. Social distancing will be followed during breaks. Unfortunately, playing and interacting together during lunch breaks will not be permitted.
- At break learners will be fetched from the classroom and returned to the class by their register teacher or a school assistant.
- Hand sanitizers will be available at the entrance of every classroom. Children are welcome to carry their own hand sanitizers as well.
- There will be no hugging, no handshakes, no touching, such as fist pumps, high 5's – all direct contact to be avoided.
- Tissues are to be used correctly and to be disposed of in an appropriate manner, coughing or sneezing should also be done in an appropriate manner.
- No child is allowed to share stationery, lunch, snacks, cold drinks, water, etc.
- Please note that Aftercare is still closed.
- Please ensure all uniforms are washed daily. All learners to be dressed in full winter uniform. We will be alternating formal winter uniform with the PT winter uniform on alternate days. Correct hair styles, hair bands, earrings, etc. to be worn.
- Please note that normal school rules will apply eg. merits, demerits, break detentions, etc. We aim to get our children back to some sense of "normality".
- Grades R-2 learners will be dismissed at 13h30 daily. Grades 3-7 learners will be dismissed at 2pm from Monday to Thursday and at 13h30 on Friday. School starts at 07h45 and learners should NOT be late.

- There will be no extra murals – all learners to be fetched immediately after school. ***NO child should be waiting after school until late to be fetched! No Child is allowed to play in the park or go to the shops!***
- It is parents' responsibility to ensure that the correct safety protocols are adhered to in their children's transport.
- Please work with us in educating your children on the new social distancing norms and correct safety measures.
- Learners will be given sufficient work for them to complete for their day at home – parents to please assist in ensuring that this takes place at home. This will be checked by their teachers when they return on the following day.
- Please ensure that your child has all the required books and stationery at school as no sharing or borrowing is allowed.

Please work with the school as far as the above aspects are concerned. Please be patient with us as we may revise plans and procedures continuously as new information comes to light.

Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Stay safe.

L. Kistadoo
Principal

Reminders

- **School Shop (for uniform) is open Tuesday and Friday from 08h00 – 09h30**
- Please download the School Communicator onto your PC, laptop or mobile phone for school info and news www.school-communicator.com
- Our banking details are: **NEDBANK BOOYSENS 198005 A/C # 1980316023.**
- **No cell phones, tablets or any other electronic devices are allowed at school** – If you are caught with these items, it will be confiscated and a penalty fee of R200.00 will be charged to get it back.
- **Left behind** - We are appealing to parents not to deliver items that your child has left behind or the parent has gone early morning shopping to bring to the learner – food; money; projects; sports kit; clothes; house keys; etc. What is left behind stays behind! Parents, children will never learn responsibility if you keep running after them. Please instill in them the habit of packing their bags and getting ready for school the night before! This also disrupts classes and lessons when children are constantly called up to the office.
- **Lost and found** - Parents, please insert a clear label with your child's name, surname & grade on all your child's uniform items (this applies to all learners in Grade R–7). We have a large number of uniform items in the Lost & Found container ***without*** labels, and we find that learners (and sometimes even parents) claim uniform items that do not even belong to them. Please note that all lost uniform items without labels will be washed and sent to our uniform shop for resale.