
MULBARTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter 23 of 2020

05 October 2020

"Teachers can change lives with just the right mix of chalk and challenges."
~ Joyce Meyer

"The influence of teachers extends beyond the classroom, well into the future."
~ F. Sionil Jose

From the Principal's Desk

Today, 5 October, is World Teachers Day. We would like to appreciate and honour all our teachers at Mulbarton Primary School, as well as in our province, our country and throughout the world for all their hard work and dedication.

Parents, please be aware that human trafficking is a reality and is a global crime and that it is taking place on our doorstep. Please ensure that you are aware of your child's whereabouts at all times and make your child aware not to approach any stranger or vehicle at any time. As a school we are also educating our children regarding this. Please also ensure that you or your child's transport, fetch your child on time after school – ***your child should not be waiting until late afternoon/evening to be fetched.*** If your child walks home, s/he should walk in a group and not alone.

Parents, also take note that with all the violence against women and children, we need to work together in educating our young children to show respect and dignity to all human beings from all backgrounds. We need to educate our sons and young men to respect all women and girls, as all women or girls are somebody's grandmother, mother, daughter, aunt, sister or niece! We certainly CANNOT tolerate a country of disrespect, abuse, lawlessness and violence! We need to work together to ensure that this education starts from an early age at home and in schools.

Also note that educators are under immense pressure to cover as much work as possible to complete the required sections of the curriculum for the remainder of the year. Please note that educators DO NOT have time to deal with discipline issues. Please speak to your child to be focused and disciplined at school and NOT to fool around, be disruptive or engage in arguments/fights with other learners in the classroom. This simply wastes time and takes up far too much of the educator's teaching time.

Covid-19 Procedure for Grades R-7 Learners:

- MASKS ARE COMPULSARY. 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.
- 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 as learners enter the school.
- On days when there is inclement weather, learners will go directly to class where screening will take place.
- 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** where staff members will be supervising. 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 youth brigade.
- After first break temperatures will be taken again when learners get back to class and it will be recorded on a class list.
- 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 now be in full summer uniform. We will be alternating formal summer uniform with the summer PT 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 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 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