

17 April 2020

School Newsletter

DEAR MCA FAMILY

Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have all been affected by the Covid19 Lockdown and have had to make changes. We have faith and know our God is with us during this difficult time.

Isaiah 41:10

*fear not, for I am with you;
be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

Let's stand together in prayer for our country and nation.
Say a prayer (please read this prayer with your family)

A word of prayer

God of life,
you have promised to be with us every day,
also in difficult days, like in times like these.

Give us

clarity in our minds,
strength in our work and discernment,
rest as we sleep,
peace in our minds.

Be with those
who need help
more than we do ourselves
help us to see what we can offer
from your love. Amen.

Thank you, Parents for your support and prayer.

ACADEMICS

Since the government initiated and implemented the national lockdown, schools were forcibly closed amid the Corona virus. MCA has since commenced with online schooling operational on Class Dojo and WhatsApp.

We are now posting lessons for the two weeks on Mondays, instead of daily. This is to allow learners to work at their own pace and take the pressure off daily deadlines. However, some tasks have deadlines for the week. Please assist your child in prioritizing their work for the week ensuring they hand work in on time.

Tests and June exams have been converted to assignments - Teachers have been tasked with converting these tasks in such a way that learners will be able to complete them at home for their term marks.

We are aware not all parents are at home with the learners and get home after work. Those learners can contact their teachers for the explanation of some concepts. We want to assist both parents and learners as best we can.

We have completed the capturing and verification of Term 1 marks and we will be issuing Term 1 reports next week. Reports will be sent to parents via email.

SCHOOL FEES FOR APRIL

The school, unlike many other organisations, has yearly agreements with parents, which make it nearly impossible to afford parents long payment holidays widely given to clients and customers during the lockdown period.

A letter with details on the school's position regarding fees was sent out to parents on Monday, 13 April. It had details on how to parents can make an arrangement to pay if financially affected by the lockdown. Closing date for applications was Friday, 17th April. Replies to the applications received will be available within a week.

REPORTS

Junior School - Report from Head of School (Mrs N Mdletshe)

As MCA, we commenced online teaching on the 30th of March 2020. We use Class Dojo as the main platform to post the work for learners. Work has since been posted daily from the 30th of March to the 10th of April 2020. It was to our dismay that the lockdown was extended for a further 2 weeks, however the teachers have done an awesome job planning work for the additional 2 weeks to allow learners to work at their own pace.

Much appraisal goes to the Junior School Staff for working tirelessly in assisting the parents and learners with their school work. We have also been doing our best to uphold the school pillar which is instilling Christian values through our daily devotions to bring hope during these trying times.

We thank parents for their full involvement, and those who make an effort to assist our learners in adhering to the submission dates. Also, we are still working on encouraging parents to be fully involved in their children's education.

Senior School - Report from Head of School (Mrs J Sibanda)

Greetings in the name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who is sustaining us during this pandemic.

At M.C.A. we believe quality is never an accident - it is always the result of high intention, sincere efforts and skillful execution. That is why we came up with the online schooling program to keep our learners focused on our ultimate goal – provision of quality education.

Allow me to applaud you, our parents, for working together with the teachers in this endeavor, but I also want to appreciate our learners who have shown great resilience and much commitment to the program. I am indeed proud of the crop of learners we have produced. However, there is still a small percentage that needs following up. I implore parents to continue to push the learners to remain committed to their school work. Feel free to communicate with the teachers if learners are struggling with any content given.

We trust the Lord this will soon end and we will be together with our learners.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Learners will receive reports on their Term 1 performance via email on Friday, 24 April.

Emails that have not been verified will not be used to send reports.

SCHOOL TRIPS

We have postponed all trips to the third and fourth Term due to the lockdown.

Foundation phase Grade R-3 will have their day trips in the third term.

Please note the Grade 7 and 8 trips are at the same venue and time however they will travel in separate buses and will be completely separated as if they were from different schools having their own program and activities.

See updated Trip information below:

- Grade R: Bird Park Umfolozi (Term 3)
- Grade 1: Reptile City Mposa (Term 3)
- Grade 2: Bird Park Umfolozi (Term 3)
- Grade 3: Richard's Bay (Term 3)
- Grade 4-6: Hella Hella Richmond 30 July-1 Aug
- Grade 7: Sugar Bay Zinkwazi 20-23 July
- Grade 8: Sugar Bay Zinkwazi 20-23 July
- Grade 9: Teen Ranch Port Edward 8-10 Oct
- Grade 10: To Strand Leisure Bay 1-3 Oct
- Grade 11: Cape Town (Term 4)

We will keep you updated if there are any changes. Please plan and budget for the class trips.

We are not able to use our school landline number at this time.

Please contact Mrs Nienaber if you have any queries on 0615206753 via WhatsApp or sms.

