

Assumption Convent Primary School

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Pretoria North

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Pretoria North

0116

20 August 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back after the short break. We are in term 3 now and getting ready for assessments.

FINANCES

A number of parents have requested application forms for deferment of payment but failed to return these forms to school. As stated on numerous accounts in the past, without these forms we are unable to grant any form of payment relief. As a result, accounts are going to be handed over within the week.

Many parents have received emails from the finance office with regards to their accounts but have failed to respond. Those parents are requested to please do the right thing and respond. We are trying to assist as far as we can, but we cannot do much if we do not have the co-operation of parents.

Thank you very much to all those parents who are doing their very best to keep their school fees updated.

CURRICULUM

We have had a marked increase in the number of learners returning to school this week and we are very pleased about that. We were very disappointed though, to discover that some of these learners, who have returned to school for the very first time since the lockdown started in March, have done very little or, in some cases, none of the work that was sent home by the school via Whatsapp or hard copies.

This puts these learners at a huge disadvantage as far as their academic progress is concerned. I fail to see why most of the learners who returned to school for the first time since lockdown this week, worked hard and kept up to date with the work provided by the school, but some learners just did not bother at all.

I wish to state it very emphatically that there is no such thing that all learners will simply be promoted to the next grade, regardless, at the end of the year, especially here at Assumption. We have been working very hard to get our learners up to scratch and the vast majority of our learners have co-operated wonderfully. We have a few learners though who seem to think that they can simply go along for the ride and be promoted at the end of the year while having done nothing to warrant it. Sadly there seems to be some parents who have the same mindset.

Even some of our learners who have been coming to school for a while already, seem to think that they do not need to bother with their school work or homework. They do not hand in

assignments, blank scripts are handed in for assessment, homework is not done, or very carelessly done, books are left at home, and the list goes on.

Time is running out very quickly and before we know it, the final exams will be upon us. Now is not the time for our learners to relax and try and get away with the minimum. Now is the time to work extra hard. All parents are therefore urged to please support the school in our efforts to teach your child and prepare him/her thoroughly for the exams, and to also support your children by seeing to it that they take their school work and homework seriously.

PERMISSION FOR HOME SCHOOLING

I want to re-iterate the importance of sending your child to school. No amount of teaching at home can replace actual face-to-face teaching in the class situation.

Please make a very careful consideration before opting to still keep your child out of school.

We are faced with a serious challenge as far as assessments of learners, who are not coming to school, are concerned. ALL learners HAVE to be assessed, and they HAVE to be assessed at school. So even if parents opt to still not send their children to school, those learners will have to come to school to write their tests and exams and may then go home again.

Learners need a pass mark in order to be promoted at the end of the year and if a learner does not come to school to write tests and exams, no marks can be given, which means, the learner cannot be promoted.

This brings me to the next point. In previous newsletters I indicated that parents who wish to keep their children at home should apply for permission from the Department of Education to do so. We have since been informed that for Independent schools, the process is different and parents should apply for permission to keep their children at home, directly from the school

Some parents have already received this information, but application forms to this effect are now available from school, which can be collected either from Uncle Sammy at the gate, or Aunty Anne in the office. **These forms must be returned to school on or before 26 August 2020.**

Please note that without official permission from the school to keep your child at home, no further academic support will be provided for children who are not coming to school as from 31 August 2020. It is therefore of utmost importance that application forms be submitted on time.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY AND REVISED DATES

With good headway having been made with the curriculum, we are now able to revert back to our original calendar as published in the 2020 school diary:

- 18 September – school closes for term 3
- 5 October – school re-opens for term 4
- 18 November – final exams end, school closes for learners
- 24 November – collection of reports
- 27 November – school closes for teachers

The dates above are still subject to change, pending the status of national lockdown.

COVID 19 CASES AND SELF ISOLATION

Please stay vigilant and do not send your child to school if he/she displays any of the symptoms for Covid 19, such as coughing, sore throat, loss of taste and smell etc.

A child who has been in direct contact with a person who tested positive should not come to school and should self-isolate for 10 days. If he/she develops symptoms during this time he/she must be tested and may only return to school after full recovery.

Parents who have tested positive should be self-isolating and should not UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES come to school.

AFTERCARE

The aftercare facility is open and parents are welcome to bring their children back to aftercare. Parents who used to make use of the aftercare facility are requested to please inform the school if they are not planning on making use of this service anymore, as we need to establish the financial viability of the continued operation of the aftercare centre for the remainder of 2020.

INDEMNITY

Please note well: Covid-19 is a declared pandemic. Neither the School nor a representative of the School, in whatever capacity, is in a position to guarantee the prevention of transmission of the virus at the School.

The School has done everything possible to comply with the prescribed Covid-19 prevention requirements to ensure the safety of the staff and learners on the school grounds and will continue to do so in accordance with the prescriptions.

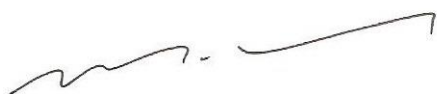
It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to decide whether or not to send their children to school. All persons who enter the school premises do so at their own risk.

GENERAL

- Our pre-school parents are kindly requested to see to it that they drop their little ones off at the pre-school gate in the mornings and not any of the other gates. The pre-school gate will be manned until 08:00 in the morning.

Have a wonderful weekend and please stay safe.

Kind regards



M. Enos (Principal)