

GOOD SHEPHERD EC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Guardians

At the beginning of this year we said that in our newsletters we will focus on **GROWTH**. We stick to our promises and I want to share a true and positive quote from Thomas. H. Huxley: *The rung of a ladder was never meant to rest upon, but only to hold a man's foot long enough to enable him to put the other somewhat higher*". During a time of difficulty and uncertainty, may we always remember to strive higher and higher to achieve the best and to make a positive difference in our daily lives.

The announcement to Level 4 caught all of us off guard, but this does not mean that we must sit in ashes and be negative, no, in fact we must **GROW** to bring out the best in this pandemic. Our school programme suddenly changed and all learners will go on holiday on Wednesday, 30 June. The school's office will close on Thursday at 13:00 and teachers will go from Friday 2 July on holiday. At this stage we will start on Monday 19 June, we will continue to alter days. Report cards will only be handed out on Friday 30 July. Please sign and return these. As we need a copy for the learners files. As principal and accountable officer I will take the blame and therefore no report cards will be issued if there are outstanding text books and library books. In 2019 we bought R52 000 of textbooks and some learners just do not want to bring them back to the educators. Ms. June is in despair and urgently needs the outstanding library books! If we want to grow in ourselves, we have to take responsibility and must be accountable.

Gr. R-6 learners will be finished with their formal assessments and exams tomorrow (Wednesday 30 June). The Gr. 7's will write their last two subjects on Tuesday 20 July (Afr./IsiXhosa) and Wednesday 21 July (Life Orientation). They will follow the same exam times as what we have just followed. On Monday 19 July we will accommodate the Yellow Group, etc.

We do not know if there will be another extension of the lockdown and the academic staff therefore plead to parents to see that learners keep themselves busy with work. The Foundation Phase educators will communicate through WhatsApp with their grades. Gr. 4-7 must work in the Rainbow books, do revision on work done in Term 1 and Term 2, etc. The Maths teachers do not want learners to work far ahead as the teachers must first do the necessary foundation. Gr. 4's must remember to practise daily reading, spelling, handwriting and their timetables.

For next term we have some fundraising activities planned. Thank you to Mrs. Accom for organizing the colouring in competition from Gr. R-7. During the first week of the third term a group of educators will judge the final products in each class. We will also have our annual individual photos and the local photographer of Foto First will take the photos. The cost of photos will be R120 and the package will consist out of 2 x A4 prints (different sized), photos with the Good Shepherd logo. We are also planning to do a raffle, thanks to Mrs. Green for organising us a 2021 Sharks signed rugby jersey and a rugby ball, signed by six Springbok rugby players. We will also host a hotdog, cooldrink and Civvies Day. Thank you for your support in this regard. The Gr. R class/area will soon have their own name and BUCO will be the sponsor of the signage. From the third term we welcome our Gr. R's to Little Lambs.

We remind all Gr. R parents to pay their R350 towards school funds as we do not get any assistance from the Department of Education for our Gr. R's. Gr. 1-7 parents are reminded to pay the R100 donation per term. Foundation Phase parents are also reminded to pay their stationery fee of R100 per term. Due to covid and us altering days we have used more paper than normal, we appeal to all parents to please donate a ream A4 paper if at all possible.

Parents are reminded to please phone the secretary to change their cell phone numbers, Mrs. Bokbaard (046 622 8998) or send an email to ad.goodshep@gmail.com

We remind all parents to ensure that their children have the correct uniform and are neat in their appearance (hair, nails, etc.). Discipline starts at home and respect for uniform is important!

We are still waiting for POPI act forms to be signed, it is not compulsory to give consent. If parents do not sign the forms, their children cannot feature in newspapers, social media, etc.

Enjoy your holidays with your children and make the best of the current situation. Motivate your children to read and prepare for next term, example: if they will not read daily there reading speed will dramatically decrease.

Stay safe!

Manie Cronjé
Principal

