



GROOTE SCHUUR HIGH SCHOOL

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Newsletter 12/2021

30 July 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians

Today's Prayer

"Almighty Father, there is so much going on in this world, so much that is upsetting and beyond our control. Please help us to cast our cares on you. Please help all who are dealing with tragedies, illness, adversity and loss. Please pour your blessings on all who are in need. Help us all to find peace and calm within. Protect our school and keep our staff, learners and all our families in your safe protection. May your will be done. Amen."



Candle of Hope

Calm returned to our towns and cities, and our country's highways are once again running optimally. We are very relieved that, at least that aspect of our lives can be normal. Thank you for speaking calm and peace into this volatile situation.

Staff News

Mr Jeremy Quickfall accepted a post at The Settlers HS. We thank him for 9 years of high energy and commitment to our Music Department and our school. We welcome Mrs Celeste Williams in his position.

Mrs Naathirah Hendricks returned from her accouchement leave. Mrs Elvida Samuels is going on accouchement leave today. We

wish her a beautiful journey with her new baby. Her position is taken by Ms Kristi Kearns who also substituted for Mrs Hendricks.

Mrs Trent (Social worker) is also going on accouchement leave on 6 August. We convey our best wishes and blessings to her and her family. Mrs Monique Swart will be her substitute.

Semester 1 Reports

Reports will be emailed on Friday, 6 August. It is difficult to advise how these reports should be read. We are analyzing to understand the impact that the 2020 academic year had on learners' foundational knowledge in their respective subjects, as well as their level of skills acquisition. We will share our thoughts on learners' development and progress in their respective grade meetings.

Due to the current State of Disaster regulations, the usual one-on-one intervention meetings cannot be held. General information will be shared in the virtual grade meetings; however, parents are also encouraged to email their questions or suggestions to educators. Educators' email addresses follow an easy convention of initial and surname@gshs.co.za e.g. mehrenreich@gshs.co.za.

Below is the virtual grade parent meeting roster.

10 Aug. – Gr. 12

11 Aug. – Gr. 11

12 Aug. – Gr. 10

16 Aug. – Gr. 8

17 Aug. – Gr. 9

Meetings will be conducted on MS Teams and start at 18h00 (six o'clock). These meetings should not go beyond the hour, except the Gr. 9 meeting that will also focus

Our vision of success:

GSHS learners are accountable, well-balanced people striving for academic excellence, while living lives of significance and service.

on the very important aspect of subject choices. The meeting links will be emailed on the day of each meeting. Minutes and a recording of the meetings will be sent.

Learner attendance

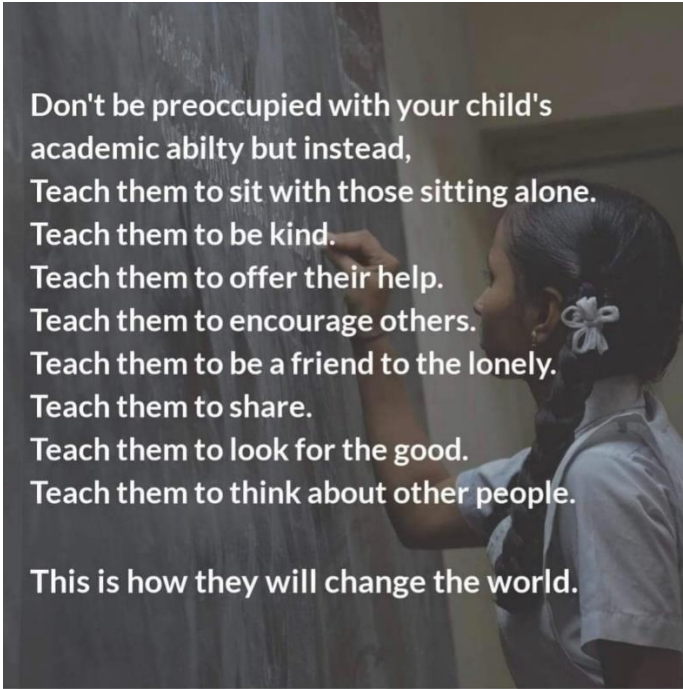
We are very concerned about our unusually low attendance levels this past week. Yesterday (77,5%) and today (73,6%) are the lowest we have had. Grade Heads and Homeroom teachers have not received notification from many families to account for learners' absence.

Please inform the school through the appropriate communication channels if your child is/was absent. Our decisions are informed by the reasons for learners' absence.

COVID-19 Pandemic

We are well aware that our province has not yet peaked in the third wave. The statistics tell a harrowing story of increasing daily infections. Every day we hear of loved ones passing – young and not so young. We cannot over-emphasise each one's responsibility in keeping us all safe. Our COVID-19 Task Team works without ceasing! We should all follow their example and support them.

Food for thought

A young girl in a school uniform is writing on a chalkboard. The text is overlaid on the image.

Don't be preoccupied with your child's academic ability but instead,
Teach them to sit with those sitting alone.
Teach them to be kind.
Teach them to offer their help.
Teach them to encourage others.
Teach them to be a friend to the lonely.
Teach them to share.
Teach them to look for the good.
Teach them to think about other people.

This is how they will change the world.

Stay Safe, Healthy and Blessed!

Marius Ehrenreich