



Riverside College

Corner Cellars & Carmine Drive Burgundy Estate
021 802 2001/ 074 779 1352

04 October 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome back! This is a short and very important term for all learners, particularly our Grade 12 learners. This is the end of 12 years of schooling for those who stay consistent in their efforts to study and to produce good results. Our final examinations start on the 23rd of October for the Grade 12 learners and finish at the end of November. We would like to wish each one of them the best of luck with their final preparations. It is also the end of the road for our grade 6 learners who will from next year join the ranks in the High School. We hope to see and to help each and every learner achieve their absolute best this term. All it takes to succeed is hard work and dedication.

Important Dates and Announcements:

Term 4	02 October – 04 December
Parent Meeting	Monday 07 October 17:30 – 19:30
Subject Choice Meeting Grade 9	Tuesday 15 October 18:30 – 19:30
Grade 12 Valedictory Ceremony	Tuesday 11 October 10:00 – 11:00
Matric final Exams	Wednesday 23 October
End of year exams – Gr 10 - 11	Tuesday 12 November
End of year exams – Gr 7 – 9	Monday 18 November
Extra Lessons Gr 7 – 11	Monday 07 October

Parent Meeting:

This is an open evening for all parents. However, please note that if your child has come home with a letter requesting that you attend the meeting then it is compulsory and, in your child's, best interest to attend. Please keep the general conversation to a minimum as we would like to give all parents an equal opportunity to discuss the progress of their children with our teachers.

Extra Lessons – Term 4:

All learners who achieved less than **50%** for a subject (as per our academic policy) have been divided into the following extra classes. These classes take place from 15:15 – 16:00 on the days as indicated below. No excuses will be accepted for non-attendance. In order for us to assist your child we need them to attend these classes and commit to working during this time.

Grade 7 – 9

Monday	Afrikaans – Mrs. Botha
Tuesday	English – Ms. Jonker
Wednesday	Math – Mr. Venter

Grade 10 – 11

Monday	Afrikaans – Mrs. Botha Physical Science – Mr. Marais
Tuesday	English – Ms. Jonker
Wednesday	Math – Mr. Marais

Subject Choice Meeting:

This is an information evening where we explain and discuss the options open to Grade 9 learners in terms of subjects available for them to take in the FET (10 – 12) phase of their schooling. It is very important that parents spend some time talking to their children about their future plans. This talk should include the availability of funds for further studies, or other funding options, University selection, application and specific requirements, as well as career possibilities. We have spent much time discussing the different requirements in LO, but it has suddenly become important for

learners to think about and to discuss their individual options. We look forward to this evening and to assisting each of our learners make the best possible choices.

Financial Assistance 2020:

Parents currently receiving financial assistance or those seeking financial assistance must please make application now in order to be considered for financial assistance in 2020.

Please e-mail or contact the financial team directly on 0218022004 or e-mail acc@riversidecollege.co.za to start the process.

A note from our Principal: Mr. Swart

As a society today we are faced with so many challenges, obstacles and opportunities. Not only are we striving to survive as an individual, a partner, a parent, an employer or employee, but also balance the many other roles and responsibilities that we have. We are doing our very best to teach ourselves and our children how to deal with the pressures and the problems that we encounter daily in our personal, work and school environments. These issues can and do range from abuse and violence at home, to bullying at work and school, to violence in our neighborhoods and an extreme fear of everything unknown. We need to equip our children with the skills and coping mechanisms that they are going to need if we want them to survive in the climate that we are currently experiencing, but we doubt ourselves and we over compensate for our lack of time and attention that we give while we are trying to balance everything else. We pray that if we ignore their issues and problems for long enough, they will pass through that 'phase' and we will not have to deal with the hard things. Our children are faced with so many choices that they have to make on a daily basis, and some make the wrong choices consistently, not because they want to, but because they too doubt themselves and do not have the experience to back them up. They make choices everyday about alcohol, drugs, sex relationships, academics, entertainment and even life. Many of our young people find this extremely overwhelming and traumatic and we are faced with the suicide rates as proof of this. Gender in all forms - is a subject that is receiving much attention currently, and it is vitally important that we are aware of this in all its facets.

Gender identity disorder, also known as Gender dysphoria – a situation in which a person does not identify with their biological sex – is just one of the many topics that is very real in our society today. Many who are struggling with this are very young. These young people are faced with extremely difficult choices which they cannot make on their own. As parents and as a school community we are the only safety net that they have, and this is an OPPORTUNITY for you to support your child in their quest of figuring out what their options are and to support them in making the correct choices for them as individuals. Yes it is difficult to accept that your child is different, but it is even more difficult to grieve the loss of a child because you didn't listen to, or hear their cries for help.

If you are faced with this and or other issues, please use the opportunity to help and support your child, knowing that you are not alone on this journey. Mr Swart is not only our academic principal, but also a trained Life coach, Counsellor and Advanced Master Psych-K facilitator. Please make an appointment to discuss the school policies around these matters with him and get the support that you need. We have and will continue to work very hard to ensure that Riverside College is a safe space for ALL learners and we will do everything possible to assist our learners and our parents on their individual journeys.

As one of my favourite people and much respected writer and activist Glennon Doyle Melton says:

We can do hard things!

School Schedule:

Monday	07 Oct	Day 6	07:55 – 15:15
Tuesday	08 Oct	Day 7	07:55 – 15:15
Wednesday	09 Oct	Day 8	07:55 – 15:15
Thursday	10 Oct	Day 9	07:55 – 15:15
Friday	11 Oct	Day 10	07:55 – 14:00

Have a good weekend!

High School Staff

Newsletter #32 04 Oct 19 SNRS