



Riverside College

Corner Cellars & Carmine Drive Burgundy Estate
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25 October 2019

Dear Parents

A gentleman was walking through an elephant camp when he spotted that the elephants weren't being kept in cages or held by the use of chains, all that was keeping them from escaping was a small piece of rope tied to one of their legs.

As the man gazed upon the elephants, he was completely confused as to why the elephants didn't just use their strength to break the rope and escape the camp. They could easily have done so, but they didn't even try. Curious and wanting to know the answer, he asked the elephant trainer why the elephants were just standing there and never tried to escape. The trainer replied, "when they are very young and much smaller, we use the same size rope to tie them and at that age the rope is enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away, they believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free."

Like the elephants, how many of us go through life hanging onto a belief that we cannot do something, simply because we failed at it once before? I think every one of us can relate to this story and the feeling of having failed at something or another over the years. Over time, we can begin to think that we are not capable of doing a particular thing and we accept this as the truth and limit ourselves to a very confined world. We think to ourselves 'ah I tried that before and it didn't work out, what is the point in trying it again and wasting my time, I don't want to look like a fool! This is how we start to shrink and contract and settle for a life that is 'safe' and 'less than exciting'.

However, if we could look at all the so-called 'failures' in our lives as just stepping stones along our path and decide to respond in a way that is positive, saying 'ah well, at least I tried, now I know what doesn't work so it makes my next attempt clearer!' Treat it like a process of elimination, gathering momentum and staying focused on what we would like to achieve, trying this way and that until we succeed!

So, don't limit yourself to a small world, stop confining yourself to a life that is restricted, break free of your mental boundaries and expand out into this magnificent kingdom that we live in! The world is your oyster! Don't confine yourself any longer to the belief that you can't do something, shatter those thoughts and beliefs and spread your wings and fly! You can do anything you set your heart on, if you just believe it! Go on, just try it and never mind what the outcome is, just enjoy every experience you encounter in your life and embrace every bit of it! So, what if it takes you 10 attempts or 100! Which will you regret more...the things you did or the things you didn't do?! It's all a journey so make it an awesome one! You will never know how far you can go until you have the courage to do it!

Important Dates and Announcements:

Term 4	02 October – 04 December
End of year exams – Gr 10 - 12	Tuesday 12 November
End of year exams – Gr 7 – 9	Monday 18 November
Prize Giving Gr 7 – 11	Saturday 09 November 9:30 – 10:30

A note from our Principal: Mr. D Swart

We have decided to move the High School Prize Giving to Saturday morning the 9th of November. This was not a decision taken lightly, but nevertheless a decision that was taken to ensure that ALL parents could be present at the event. So often parents are not able to attend because of work constraints and this year we have decided that it is important to give everyone a fair

opportunity to witness the success that their individual children have achieved. So please join us as we celebrate the successes and the goals that your child has achieved during the past academic year. It is a compulsory event for all children and as such they will attend in full school uniform. Please don't miss out on this very important event and celebration. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Teacher Appreciation Day:

Thank you! As with all things in life, appreciation too, is a two-way street...

Thank you to each and every one of you for your thoughtfulness and the many gestures of appreciation that you showed your teachers. We too appreciate the learners that we teach, the individuals that so openly share their lives with us and take us all on a daily journey of what it is like to be a teenager in the 21st century. I know it is not always easy with the demands that we make on you and the expectations that we have of you, but you must remember that you have huge roles to play in your future and ours. You also need to know that as teachers we appreciate each and every one of you for the people that you are and for the individuals that you are becoming. It is a pleasure to teach you, to engage with you and to be fellow travelers on this journey with you. Stay as beautiful and as inspiring as you are while you become the leaders, the shakers and the influencers of our tomorrow.

Reminders and notes:

- Please add us on Instagram – search for riversidecollege_cpt
- If you haven't already, check out our Facebook and give it a like – search for –'Riverside College' and stay up to date with all activities.

School Schedule:

Monday	28 Oct	Day 1	07:55 – 15:15
Tuesday	29 Oct	Day 2	07:55 – 15:15
Wednesday	30 Oct	Day 3	07:55 – 15:15
Thursday	31 Oct	Day 4	07:55 – 15:15
Friday	01 Nov	Day 5	07:55 – 14:00

Have a good weekend!
High School Staff