



Riverside College

Corner Cellars & Carmine Drive Burgundy Estate

Ph nr: 021 802 2001/3 074 779 1352

9 April 2020

Dear Parents,

What a week it has been! From not being sure how our virtual classrooms would work, to being quite able, in just a few days. Well done to parents, children and teachers! What an awesome team we all make! Please feel free to let us know how you, as parents, are experiencing the e-learning platform, we would love to hear from you.

Message from our principal Mr. D Swart

Congratulations to all Riverside College teachers, parents and learners! You are absolutely amazing and because of the incredible teamwork we have made history by being able to embrace the current circumstances and still offer our best service to our learners by launching our very own, fully functioning E-learning program in a matter of days!

We officially started teaching remotely on Monday the 6th of April at 08:00. We are running our full school timetable from 08:15 to 14:30 every day with full virtual classrooms and will continue to do so until we are able to return to our “brick and mortar” classrooms again. Our E-Learning program includes everyone from Grades 000/00 – Gr 12 as well as extra lessons for those who need it and additional assistance for our Grade 12 learners who are preparing for their final exams.

Our learners have been absolutely incredible!! They were there on time for each lesson from the beginning and they have quickly and easily settled into the new routine. I want to personally thank each of you for your enthusiasm and your willingness to take responsibility for your academics, and let you know that we are so incredibly proud of each and every one of you!

Thank you to the parents who really at the last minute rallied to set their children up on laptops, tablets and even cell phones so that they could be part of this historic and monumental moment in our schools' history.

I cannot find the words to express the overwhelming sense of gratitude and pride that I feel towards each one of our incredible teachers, our three admin ladies and our management. It is a privilege and an honour to be part of such an incredible team of individuals!

Please also allow me to thank all the subject advisors from the Western Cape Education Department, Metro North District, who have been working tirelessly to assist our teachers with additional resources and aides. We salute you and thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Until we are able to see one another again, please be safe and have a wonderful Easter.

E-Learning Funnies and Do's & Don'ts:

As many of you may have experienced, the start of the e-learning program was a bit shaky in the beginning but once parents and learners got the hang of it everything just flowed.

We had quite a few laughs on the first few days. Parents, forgetting that their kids were in live classes, were answering questions or taking calls with the rest of the class hearing it all. Some of our learners were initially comfortable enough to participate from their beds and we loved it all but if we are to see the results we intend then we need to have some structure and for this reason we share the e-learning guidelines again in this newsletter:

- Please make sure that your child is in a quiet area and out of the way of general home traffic.
- They should be at a desk and not lounging on the bed.

- Try not to take phone calls near your child as we have heard whole telephone conversations. It is also very distracting.
- Refrain from scolding your child near the microphone. We are all learning as we go along.
- The children are not to have their own private meetings during class time. Chat time is only for working purposes.
- Print out the prep and be ready for the next lesson so that questions can be answered.
- Read over all the prep that is given for the day, especially the Gr 000 - Gr 3.
- Connectivity gets a bit iffy so please read the prep if you lose out on a subject or two.
- Limit eating to break times but drinking while working would be fine.

E-Learning feedback from the Teachers:

- *“Grade 4s are loving the microphones and want to answer everything. They hum while they work. They also make guest appearances in the other teachers lessons! They keep us ,and, I think, their parents on their toes.” - Intermediate Phase Teacher*
- *“Loving all the crazy undone hair in the meetings and still in PJ's.” - Intermediate Phase Teacher*
- *“Parents are grateful for the effort we are putting in to help their children with the work whilst they are at home. All positive comments.” – Foundation Phase Teacher*

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 10 April Good Friday Public Holiday
 Monday 13 April Family Day Public Holiday

Happy Birthday!

A very Happy Birthday to the following learners who celebrated their birthday this week. As you are unable to celebrate with friends or other loved ones, we send you lots of love.

Nicole Africa	Grade R	4 April
Awethu Feni	Grade R	10 April
Ivanka Rhoda	Grade 2	5 April
Aryan Brijmohun	Grade 3	4 April
Sarah Hart	Grade 4	8 April
Meloney Branford	Grade 5	6 April
Luke Holland	Grade 5	2 April
Oratilwe Keele	Grade 6	3 April

Preschoolers Gr 000-Gr R

Planning for the week 14-17 April

Theme of the week:
 Shapes

What we will learn this week:
 Phonics: review a-g
 Math : review 1-8

Reminders and notes:

- Parents are reminded that the Eisteddfod is cancelled for this year.

Have a lovely long weekend!
 Primary School Teachers