



Riverside College

Corner Cellars & Carmine Drive Burgundy Estate
Ph nr: 021 802 2001

24 July 2020

Dear Parents

Like the similar phrase of “if life gives you lemons, make lemonade”, the meaning of “when nothing goes right, go left” is that, if you find yourself in a situation in life that you don’t like (i.e., when nothing goes right), then turn it on its head (i.e., go left)! It could be like the lemonade example, in that you actually turn the negative in to a positive, or it could be that you change things drastically and switch things up.

Let’s say that you keep applying for jobs online and don’t seem to be getting any responses, could you switch things up and apply in person where most people don’t? Or if you just can’t seem to get that promotion you really want and you really need some more cash, could you start a side business that makes you some extra money per month?

Essentially, this phrase is about taking a situation where it feels like nothing is going right and turning it around so that you try something new/make it go right/or use it to your advantage. So, fundamentally, the definition of “when nothing goes right go left” would be, to turn a negative situation in to a positive one.

I hope this message has helped you if you are caught in the mindset of feeling like nothing goes right. It’s not a fun place to be in, but I promise you that if you are positive you will start to feel better and you will find a way through and be able to turn the situation around. Mrs.Ellis

Important dates

Term 3	14 July – 22 September – <i>Teachers return on 13 July – 23 September</i>
Term 4	06 October – 2 December – <i>Teachers return 05 October – 4 December</i>

Parent meetings

Thank you to all the parents who stuck to their meetings on Teams. This was the first time that we saw almost all our parents. This is the kind of support that your children need, so thank you for showing up!

Assessments

The assessment timetable has gone out to parents today.

Extra Lessons

Please remember that it is compulsory for learners who achieve less than 50% in a subject to attend extra lessons. The only time a learner will be excused from these lessons is if they are off sick and have a medical certificate.

The study lesson group started on Thursday on Teams. Mrs. Ellis created a group to support those learners who struggle with study methods and or effective studying. The teachers will communicate to the learners who is in what groups and on what days the extra lessons will take place. All extra lessons will take place via Teams.

Message from our principal Mr. D Swart

I would like to reiterate the reasons for wanting to bring our learners back to school. The e-learning program has worked very well for most of our learners, but there are some of the learners who have

struggled through it and who need the daily interaction with teachers in the form of explanations, discussions and one on one contact in order for them to grasp the work and move forward. The other reason is that there are far too many learners not attending classes online, and these learners are falling behind with their academic work. It is not possible for teachers to keep going back to make sure that these learners are up to date and on par. Therefore, it has become necessary for us to bring them back to school for a minimum of three days a week in order to focus on the core subjects and to ensure that none of our learners end up failing at the end of the academic year. With this in mind, the return to school on the 27th will happen as follows:

1. Only grades 10 – 12 will be returning to school at present.
2. We will return for 3 days a week from 9:00 – 13:00, Tuesday - Thursday.
3. We will work according to new timetable until further notice. This will be communicated to all.
4. All learners will have to be in attendance every day to ensure that they keep up to date.
5. The curriculum has been adjusted significantly and it is of the utmost importance that we keep up to date with the latest changes in order for us to be ready for our year end exams.
6. There will be no a e-learning classes for Grades 10 – 12 on the days that they are at school, and no catch-up lessons will be done for children who opt to stay home.
7. On the days that we are not at school e-learning will continue along with all the extra lessons.

It is a **voluntary** process, and you as the parents can decide whether or not you are comfortable to send your child to school. All the Covid Safety guidelines will be strictly enforced to ensure the safety of all our learners and teachers.

There are certain conditions attached to keeping your child at home.

If you opt to keep your child at home, please note:

- You will have to sign a letter – which you can request from the office – accepting full responsibility for your child's academic progress; meaning that you will have to **collect and return** work on a weekly basis from the school office, **monitor** that your child completes the work and then return it for it to be controlled and for feedback to be given by the teacher. No special arrangements will be made. No work will be emailed or sent via any other means.

We will do everything we can to ensure that our learners are ready and prepared for their final exams, but we are going to need your support more than ever before, so please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions relating to the above matter.

Unfortunately, I must ask that all our Grade 12 learners return to school as we need every opportunity to help them prepare for their prelim exams!

Kind regards
High School Teachers