



Riverside College

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

14 August 2020

Dear Parents

The Corona Virus has brought the world to a standstill. The things that people once enjoyed doing and the places they loved to travel has all come to an abrupt halt. It can sometimes be hard to discern between what's a real threat and what is just simple panic and hysteria.

So far, this pandemic has only been with us for a few months and, for some people, it seems like a lifetime. But let's take a moment and put this into perspective.

Imagine for a moment, that you were born in the year 1900.

On your 14th birthday, World War I begins, then ends on your 18th birthday four years later. 22 million people die in that war.

Later in the year, a Spanish Flu epidemic hits the planet and runs until your 20th birthday. 50 million people die from it during those two years with 500 million people infected.

On your 29th birthday, the Great Depression begins and ends when you are 33.

When you turn 39, World War II starts, and you aren't even over the hill yet!

Between your 39th and 45th birthday, 75 million people die in the war.

At 50, the Korean War starts in which 5 million people die.

At 55 the Vietnam War starts and doesn't end for 20 years. 4 million people die in that conflict.

On your 62nd birthday you have the Cuban Missile Crisis, a tipping point in the Cold War. When you turn 75, the Vietnam War finally ends.

Think of everyone on the planet born in 1900. How did they survive all of that?

Think about all of those things that you would have experienced in your lifetime. When your grandparents speak about, "when times were hard," you now have an idea of what life was like from their perspective!

Perspective is an amazing art. We become refined, wiser, and more enlightened as time marches on. Let's try and keep things in perspective and remember, this too shall pass and that this experience will become part of history that will be spoken about by our grandchildren for many years to come.

Miss Jonker

Important dates

Term 3	14 July – 22 September – <i>Teachers return on 14 July – 23 September</i>
Term 4	06 October – 2 December – <i>Teachers return 05 October – 4 December</i>
11 August	Grade 2 returning to school everyday
17 August	Grades 4 – 6 returning to school
24 August	Aftercare will start operating at Riverside College – there will be NO holiday care at this time.
31 August	Grade 7 to 9 returning to school at which time to will go back to our normal school hours.

Letter of exemption

Please remember to request the letter from the office and to return the signed document as soon as possible to ensure that your child is not deregistered from the Education Department.

Extra Lessons

Children are not attending their Teams extra lessons, and this is going to have a drastic effect on their term 3 results. 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. Until further notice all extra lessons will take place via teams in the afternoons as arranged.

School Hours

We have staggered the starting times for the different phases to avoid our children crowding together at the entry points. Please understand that the process of allowing learners into the premises are very strict and we cannot have children arriving late for school every day. The High School children start their classes at 09:00 and thus they need to be at school no later than 8:50 in order for all the procedures to be followed and for our teachers not to be late for their classes.

Tuck-shop

Toasted sandwiches will be served in the tuck-shop and we ask that children please place their orders with Tina before school.

Message from our principal Mr. D Swart

We have received the final timetable for our grade 12 exams at the end of the year. Our grade 12 learners will write from the 11th of November until the 15th of December 2020. This gives us one less thing to stress about, and we can now start preparing ourselves for the exams without any further concern about whether or not we will be writing. Please remember that the sooner you start the better your chances of reaching the goals you have set for yourself.

The dates and timetable for the September Test series for Grade 7 – 11 learners will be communicated shortly. The Grade 12 Prelims will take place during the same time.

As with everything else that has come before us, this too will work out the way it is supposed to. Spend your time on being positive and proactive so that you can determine the direction you would like to move in. Yes, things will happen, and plans will be changed or derailed, but in the end your goals will always be there to guide you and to give you direction again.

Stay safe and stay focused on the things you can control while learning to let go of everything else that does not serve you and your mental wellbeing.

Have a great weekend!
High School Teachers