



Riverside College

Cnr Cellars & Carmine Drive Burgundy Estate
Ph 0218022001 www.riversidecollege.co.za

5 August 2022

Dear Parents

The following story that I'll be sharing with you is about the importance of being different.

Gillian is a seven-year-old girl who cannot sit in school. She continually gets up, gets distracted, flies with thoughts, and doesn't follow lessons. Her teachers worry about her, punish her, scold her, reward the few times that she is attentive, but nothing. Gillian does not know how to sit and cannot be attentive.

When she comes home, her mother punishes her too. So not only does she Gillian have bad grades and punishment at school, but she also suffers from them at home.

One day, Gillian's mother is called to the school. The teachers speak of illness, of an obvious disorder, "Maybe it is hyperactivity" or "maybe she needs a medication?"

During the interview an older teacher arrives who knows the little girl. He asks all the adults, other and colleagues to follow him into the adjoining room from where she can still be seen. As he leaves, he tells Gillian that they will be back soon and turns on an old radio with music.

As the girl is alone in the room, she immediately gets up and begins to move up and down chasing the music in the air with her feet and her heart. The teacher smiles as the colleagues and the mother look at him between confusion and compassion, as is often done with the old. So, he says: "See? Gillian is not sick; Gillian is a dancer!" He recommends that her mother take her to a dance class and that her colleagues make her dance from time to time.

She attends her first lesson and when she gets home, she tells her mother: "Everyone is like me, no one can sit there!"

In 1981, after a career as a dancer, owner of her own dance academy and receiving international recognition for her art, Gillian Lynne became the choreographer of the musical "Cats".

Hopefully all "different" children find adults capable of welcoming them for who they are and not for what they lack.

Y. Lotz

SOCCER:

We had our first match on Wednesday evening at the Montague Arena. Learners found it challenging but still had fun! We are looking forward to more of these matches. Well done, Boys!



NETBALL

Our Netball girls will be competing in their first match of the 15th of August at Montague Arena. The friendly games will start at 18:00. The fee per game is R60 per player. Parents, please make sure to have the learner there 30 minutes before the game at the arena.

CONQUESTA:

For those learners who registered, Conquesta will be written on the dates listed below.

English – 15 August 2022

Afrikaans – 16 August 2022

Mathematics – 17 August 2022

INSPECTION:

Please ensure that your child is dressed in full winter attire, in line with the code of conduct. Inspections are done daily to ensure that the learners are always neat and tidy, this also includes the sport uniform.

TEDDY BEAR DRIVE FOR RED CROSS HOSPITAL

We will be collecting new teddy bears (small to medium) to donate to the Children's Hospital Trust at the Red Cross Hospital. A date will be set when learners can start bringing their donated teddy bears to school.

CAMP:

The camp dates will change to September 5 – 7, 2022 due to the Department of Education's finalized schedule. The location is unchanged.

UNIFORM SALES / CLOTHING BANK:

As parents are aware, uniform sales are done from the school office and it is not the best arrangement. It is for this reason that we are setting up a clothing bank where parents can buy uniform at dedicated times in a space separate from the office.

Please note that the new times to purchase uniform are as follows:

Mondays: 7:15am – 8am & 2pm – 4pm

Tuesday: 2pm – 4pm only

Wednesdays: 2pm – 4pm only

(NO uniform sales on Thursdays or Fridays)

Important Dates:

8 August – School holiday

9 August – Women's Day

15 – 18 August – Job shadowing Grade 10&11

19 August – World Photo Day

20 August – Riverside Road Runners and Open day

5 – 7 September 2022 – Camp for grade 7-11

Grade 12 fundraising events

The grade 12 class will be having fundraising events on the following days. Please allow your child to participate and contribute towards their fundraising campaign. The funds raised will be used towards their Matric farewell. The cost per event will be R10 per learner payable before the event.

Funky hair day 26 August 2022

Message from the Principal Carlien Ellis:

This morning in assembly Miss Lotz told us a story about fitting in. This is something that I come across every day at school. Many learners feel they do not fit the perfect "learner" picture. Today I want to tell all parents - it is okay if your child does not fit within the confines of the expectations set by social media, family, teachers, or themselves.

We are all unique, made in our own particular way. We do not have to fit into any box.

As parents and teachers, we are responsible for teaching our children

to focus on their specific talents and ways of doing things and just be themselves. After all, happiness is all about being true to yourself.

We must teach our children (and practice what we preach) to let go of who and what they think they should be! Have them focus on being their authentic selves.

You could say everyone is coming out of their own closet. Every student here is emerging their true self, but this journey brings with its anxiety and negative feelings.

Our kids may start worrying about what others think and if they'll be accepted, that's why connecting with your child with authenticity and compassion is essential.

However, you can't be compassionate to others without being compassionate to yourself first. A reminder: Don't change so people will like you, be yourself and the right people will absolutely love you!

I want to encourage parents, learners and teachers to be themselves, to embrace their authenticity. Take a moment to consider your strengths and clarify your core values. It also helps to seek out like-minded people. Not only do we feel at ease with them, but they also help us grow and flourish in alignment with our true selves.

Remember, everyone has their own version of 'normal,' and none of us are right or wrong. Therefore, we should not expect to all be alike but rather respect our differences and value our unique skills. This is a valuable lesson to teach our children.

School Schedule:

Monday	08/08	School closed
Tuesday	09/08	Women's Day
Wednesday	10/08	Day 8
Thursday	11/08	Day 9
Friday	12/08	Day 10

Have a lovely long weekend!
High School Staff