



Riverside College

Corner Cellars & Carmine Drive Burgundy Estate
021 802 2001/ 074 779 1352

08 February 2019

Dear Parents,

The importance of kindness

The social world of high school is often challenging, with some teens experiencing bullying or being left out of cliques, and it is a crucial time to talk to your teenager about the value of being kind and welcoming to others.

Success

The ability to be kind is an essential trait that can help contribute to a person's personal and professional success. Research shows that kindness is linked to increased peer acceptance, improved academic performance and positive mental health.

To watch a 3min short film that received an Academy Award:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wi0jGc11I3s>

Mr. R. Vosloo

Important Dates and Announcements:

Term 1	16/01 – 15/03
Term 2	03/04 – 14/06
Term 3	11/07 – 20/09
Term 4	01/10 – 04/12

Assessment Calendars:

Please keep these safe as all Formal Assessment Tasks must be handed in on time. Late assessments will carry the following penalties:

Late 1 day: 20% deduction from final mark

Late 2 days: 50% deduction from final mark

Late 3 days: 0% but project must still be handed in and may qualify for a merit mark.

No Cell Phone Policy:

Every parent undergoes an interview before their child is accepted into our school. The cellphone policy is very clearly explained to all parents, whom at the time, all agree that it is a very good policy. Yet we still find learners who bring their phones to school. Herewith please find our policy relating to cell phones.

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION ABOUT OUR SCHOOL CELLPHONE POLICY:

In our school's Code of Conduct as well as in previous weekly communication we have informed parents and learners alike that our school has a NO CELLPHONE POLICY. Cellphones are no longer just phones and there are numerous reasons why phones are not allowed at school, some of these reasons are:

- 1) The accessibility of *inappropriate* material via mobile networks.
- 2) The accessibility to "open" networks surrounding the school.
- 3) The distributions of *inappropriate* material amongst learners whilst at school.
- 4) The accessibility to *illegal* material (i.e.: pornographic images / cartoons) via mobile networks.
- 5) The recording of inappropriate actions or images amongst learners during break time and the distribution of such material.
- 6) Cellphones are not allowed to be taken into a test or examination room.
- 7) Learners have been caught on their social profiles in class whilst lessons are being taught.
- 8) Cellphones are valuable items and have been stolen from learner's bags and even the office in the past.

Due to the numerous problems caused by cellphones during the school day a decision was taken years ago to not permit cellphones on the school premises. This rule was introduced into our Code of Conduct as far back as 2010 and should you no longer be in possession of a printed copy of our Code of Conduct you can download a copy from our website www.riversidecollege.co.za. This web version was uploaded in February 2012 and is still current.

Unfortunately, we will also no longer allow learners to leave their phones in the office as the school office is not a secure environment, meaning it is easily accessible to any member of the public and we cannot and will not be held responsible for the disappearance of any valuable item from the school premises. Please see point nr 12 of the Terms and Conditions contained on the enrolment application form.

We have also found learners to be bringing their cellphones to school and hide it on their person or in their bags and then to use it during break. This is a LEVEL 2 offence (Defiance) and when the learner is caught on his or her phone, as has happened during lessons in the past (prior to the teen pregnancy project), it will result in:

- 1) The phone being confiscated for the remainder of the term.
- 2) Principal's detention which is on a Saturday.
- 3) A warning letter for defiance to go on the learner's personal file.

Although we recognize the importance of connectivity, we are still an educational facility that only has a few hours a day to impart knowledge to our learners and we cannot be expected to spend this precious time battling with learners who are continually distracted by their phones.

The NO CELLPHONE policy will be enforced as of Monday 11 February 2019 and we urge parents to make sure that their children leave their phones at home where they belong. Any child who needs to get hold of a parent in the case of an emergency can do so via the office and visa-versa.

PLEASE NOTE: This policy also covers iPad, smart watches and other electronic devices.

Your co-operation and understanding in this regard is appreciated.

Upcoming events:

Valentines Dance	16 February – High school learners
Community Market & Fun walk	02 March – Stalls are available at R200 per unit – please enquire at the office if you are interested.
Senior School Camp	8 – 12 April
Art Auction & Cheese and wine	31 May – A not to be missed event!

**All of these events will take place on the school property.*

Athletics:

Inter schools 15 February

With the inter-house done and dusted, we now focus on the inter-schools meeting where we are once again united as a team. Team Riverside will be competing against the following schools: Blouberg International, El Shaddai, Melkbos Private and last but not least CBC. We are training hard and we are amped about what we are going to achieve at this meeting.

The winners of the inter-house athletics for 2019 is...Cobalt winning with 237 points to 225 points. Amber won the spirit cup award. Well done to all our learners and to the respective winning teams!!!

Times and requirements for the Inter-Schools:

The bus will leave Riverside at 05:30 and all learners must please be on time. The bus will not be able to wait for anyone as it needs to get us to the venue in time for us to be seated by 07:30.

The school bus from Parklands will have to leave there at 05:00 in order for children to be at school in time for the other bus. We do understand that it is very early, but it is a once off event and we ask that each parent please ensure that their child is on time.

All learners must go and return to Riverside on the bus!! We will notify parents via SMS when we arrive there and what time we will be back at school – which will be between 17:00 – 18:00.

All learners must please bring enough food and WATER. There will be food for sale at the event so please bring cash if you want to buy food.

All learners must be in full school uniform when we arrive at the venue and the athletes will then go and change into their respective clothes. Please note that no 'other' clothes will be allowed to be worn and all the school rules will apply regarding this and other outings.

Please remember enough WATER and sunblock, as it is expected to be hot.

Valentine's dance:

Tickets to this event will cost R50.00 per person and will be sold during the register period in the mornings. Learners may purchase tickets for and bring along a friend from outside the school, provided that the friend is under the age of 18.

Senior School Camp

Information letters were sent home on Wednesday regarding the annual school camp. The camp for Gr 7 – 12 will take place from the 10 – 12 April 2019. Please send these forms back by the due date to ensure that all arrangements are made to accommodate all our learners. The school camp is compulsory for all learners.

Trophies:

The deadline for the return of trophies was Monday the 3rd, but we still have trophies outstanding. Please could you return these as soon as possible.

Test series dates:

Gr 7 – 9	1 March – 13 March
Gr 10 – 12	1 March – 13 March

Olympiad dates:

English	5 March – Written at school
Mathematics	12 March – Info to follow shortly
Natural Science	16 May – Written at school
Life Science	16 May – Written at school

Prizes for the Science Olympiad will be awarded to:

- The top three national winners
- The top provincial winner
- The top girl learner in each grade
- The top boy learner in each grade

The top winners will attend the science focus week during Sep/Oct holidays in Pretoria

Uniforms:

Only the official school uniform will be allowed. Tracksuit tops and other jackets are NOT allowed to be worn with or instead of the school uniform. We will be conducting uniform inspections on a weekly basis and ask that you ensure that your child has the correct uniform. This includes the sport uniform which is used for PE and for the different sports.

Lockers:

Lockers are available at R200 per unit for the 2019 academic year. You would need your own lock and it is on a first come first serve basis. Please send all queries to the office.

Message from our Principal: Mr. D Swart

There seems to be an air of excitement and expectation all around. Our learners are enjoying the new tuck shop and all the goodies that are on offer every day. The tent is going up this week which will ensure that the learners have a shady table at which to sit and eat their lunch.

On the opposite spectrum there is a feeling of stress and tension as the test series dates come closer. Particularly so for our grade 12 learners, who are feeling the pressure a little. Here are just a few simple things we as parents can do to help them get off on the right foot.

They need to have a space – preferably away from the hustle and bustle in the house - where they can sit down to do homework and study according to a well-balanced schedule. They need to eat regular, healthy and well-balanced meals. They need to get enough rest. They need to have leisure time, be allowed to relax and mingle with their family and friends, while at the same time they need to get enough exercise. Unfortunately, we need to take charge of and curb their screen, gaming and social time as well. We spend far more time on our phones than we think and before you realize it you have lost 3 hours which can never be caught up on again. Dealing with stress and with everyday stressors is a vital part of growing up and we need to teach our children these life skills in order for them to perform at their best and achieve all that they are capable of.

Please ask for assistance if you are unable to manage with any of the above and we will do our utmost to assist you and your child.

Reminders and notes:

- 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.
- If you're on Twitter, follow us on @RiversideCPT for daily updates, pics and news.

School Schedule:

Monday	11 Feb	Day 6	07:55 - 15:15
Tuesday	12 Feb	Day 7	07:55 – 15:15
Wednesday	13 Feb	Day 8	07:55 – 15:15
Thursday	14 Feb	Day 9	07:55 – 15:15
Friday	15 Feb	Day 10	07:55 – 14:00

Have a good weekend
High School Staff
Riverside College