



# Riverside College

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

9 April 2020

Dear Parents

## 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 6<sup>th</sup> of April at 09:00. 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.

## School Schedule:

Tuesday	14 Apr	Day 7	08:15 – 14:30
Wednesday	15 Apr	Day 8	08:15 – 14:30
Thursday	16 Apr	Day 9	08:15 – 14:30
Friday	17 Apr	Day 10	08:00 – 14:00

Extra lessons will commence as from next week Tuesday. The time slot which will be used for this will be from 14:30 – 16:00 from Monday to Thursday. We will send out details and notifications to all the learners via the online platform. Please remember that any learner who achieved less than 50% in any subject in Term 1 will be compelled to attend these lessons.

Mathematics for Gr 7 – 9 will not be included in the first group of extra lessons. If there is a need for support in Mathematics, then please contact Mr. Swart directly.

### **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:

#### **For the Parents:**

- Ensure a quiet space if possible, for your child.
- The lessons are structured as they appear on the timetable. There are 2 breaks where learners can go to the bathroom or make something to eat.
- High school learners can work independently.
- If you have more than one learner on this platform they must please be separated.
- Headphones work very well.
- Please respect the teachers and the work that they are trying to do and do not interfere in their lessons.

#### **For the Learners:**

- When the lesson starts just indicate with a thumbs up that you are in the lesson.
- Be prepared for the lesson with your textbook and workbook next to you.
- Please refrain from using foul language at any time during the lesson.
- Please keep the conversations only applicable to schoolwork, no chatting in between.
- Please read and listen carefully to all instructions.
- Make sure that you can open all attachments sent in the group.
- Be respectful towards other learners in class.
- Contact the teacher if you don't know what to do, communication is key on this platform.
- Do your summaries and homework every day. Consistency is key.
- This is a school platform and we expect you to behave in an appropriate manner at all times.
- All learners are expected to show themselves on camera to ensure that the teacher has their attention. This is not optional.

### **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 & High School Teachers
- *"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
- *"The most asked question from the older children...do we really need to go back to school after lockdown? Why can't we just carry on doing it like this because this is lekka!"* - Mr Swart

Have a wonderful long weekend!  
High School Staff