



St Nicholas Diocesan School

A Co-Educational, Independent, Anglican, Day and Boarding School for pupils from Grade RR-12

Tuesday, 09 July 2024

Dear St Nicholas Community

I hope this newsletter finds you well! I hope that you have all enjoyed some quality family time together during the holidays. The holidays provide time for us to reconnect, reprioritise and spend time recharging our batteries. I trust that the students have rested and that especially the matrics are ready to go into over drive as they approach the Trials and Final Examinations. This coming term is a relatively short but busy term.

As we approach Nelson Mandela Day on 18th July, it is necessary to reflect on why this day is so important to South Africans and how we can all participate in making a positive difference, not only on this day but on each and every day. If we are able to go to bed each night and say we made a positive difference, no matter how small, that day then we have had a successful day. Let us do our very best to live up to the ideals of Nelson Mandela who is regarded as one of the greatest leaders / influencers of our time. My wish is that we as a St Nicholas community will support each other, help each other to reach our full potential, when someone falls down help them up, put a smile on someone's face, be the walking Christian that God expects us to be.

I share with you what Mr Rugbar wrote in his Junior School Newsletter:

“Who Was Nelson Mandela?

Nelson Mandela dedicated his life to fighting for justice and equality for all South Africans. He spent 27 years in prison for standing up against a system that treated people unfairly based on the colour of their skin. Despite the hardships he faced, Mandela remained committed to his dream of a better, more equal society for everyone.

What Is Nelson Mandela Day?

Nelson Mandela Day is celebrated every year on 18th July, Mandela's birthday. The day was established by the United Nations in 2009 to honour Mandela's legacy and to encourage people around the world to take action and inspire change.

Why Is Nelson Mandela Day Important?

Nelson Mandela Day reminds us of the power of one person's courage and dedication to make the world a better place. Mandela believed in the importance of helping others and working together to overcome challenges. By celebrating this day, we remember his values and are inspired to make a difference in our communities.

How Can We Celebrate Nelson Mandela Day?

This year, our school will raise funds to assist the community of Tongaat, who were badly affected by the severe storms in June. To support this cause, we will be hosting a Civvies Day next Friday, 19 July. On this day, children will be asked to contribute at least R10 for the fundraising effort. Our goal is to raise in excess of R2500, which will be donated to the community of Tongaat, especially Seatides School which was badly damaged. By participating, children will be allowed to wear their civvies to school next Friday. Thank you in advance for supporting this worthy cause.

Nelson Mandela Day is a special opportunity to reflect on the values of courage, kindness, and equality. By participating in this day, we honour Nelson Mandela's legacy and contribute to making the world a better place for everyone.”

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Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa
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assessment matters

P.O. Box 3310
Pietermaritzburg, 3200

(t) 033 345 1566 /7
(w) www.stnicholas.co.za

(e) reception@stnicholas.co.za
34 Jabu Ndlovu Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201

 ourstnicholas

 @StNicsPMB

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Reopening of school - School reopens for our girls and boys on Tuesday, 16 July with boarders returning on Monday 15 July.

All children are expected to be at school by 07h20. Please make sure that your child is at school on time as late coming has become a problem and disrupts the 1st lesson which starts at 07h30 each day. Late comers may be excluded from lesson 1 in order to prevent this disruption.

School uniforms and hair - To ensure a positive and focused learning environment, we kindly remind parents that all children are required to adhere to our school's uniform and appearance guidelines. High School students are to wear the Winter Uniform in Term 3.

We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that your child arrives at school with the correct uniform and school haircut. Please refer to the Code of Conduct for what is acceptable regarding hair. It should be noted that the school haircut should be neat, with no lines on the hair and eyebrows. Hair should be of the correct length and not dyed. Our students are all ambassadors for the school and should wear their uniform with pride and look respectable in public at all times.

Cell phones – The use of cell phones is not allowed during school hours unless express permission has been granted by a teacher. Unauthorised use of phones, especially during lesson time, is a distraction and affects academic focus. Students found using phones during school hours will have the devices confiscated.

Please note that the school is not responsible for the safety of phones and would request that these are preferably not brought to school.

CCTV Cameras – Additional cameras have been installed around the school in an attempt to improve our security within the school. That said, students are encouraged not to bring valuables to school and to keep their property safe.

Drop-off and Pick-up points - Students must be dropped off (before 7h20) and picked up in the afternoon (before 17h00) from the Aftercare gate on Jabu Ndlovu Street and not in the school car park please.

Sport and Co-curricular Programme/Term 3 Calendar - Our sport and co-curricular programme will commence on Wednesday, 17 July 2024. The school term three calendar and the sport and the co-curricular programme will be sent home next Tuesday for your reference.

Academic Reports – The Mid-year reports will be distributed to students on Friday 19 July. Please discuss your child's report with him / her. A Parent Contact Evening, which is the opportunity to discuss academic progress with individual teachers, will take place on Thursday 25 July.

Saturday School – Matrics are required to attend the academic lessons taught each Saturday starting on Saturday, 20 July. These sessions are important in preparation for the Trial Examinations that begin on 19 August.

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Outstanding School Fees (from Term 2 of 2024) - I am appealing to all parents to settle any outstanding school fees from terms one and two of this year before returning children to school on Tuesday, 16 July. Unfortunately if fees are not paid up to date children may be sent home until fees are paid. This has a negative impact on academic progress and needs to be avoided. The Finance Office is open on Monday, 15 July to assist you in this regard.

- We wish our Junior School Soccer Team and Coaches safe travels and a wonderful experience for their upcoming **Camp Discovery Soccer Tour** (12-14 July).
- Both our Junior School and High School Marimba Bands will be participating in the **Education Africa International Marimba & Steelpan Festival**, being held at St Dominic's Catholic School for Girls in Boksburg on the 27th and 28th of July. This is the largest festival of its' kind in the world and we are extremely proud of our children who will be showcasing their incredible talents and passion for music. A huge thank you to our Music Director, Mr Jumah for the phenomenal work he is doing with our children.

27/28 JULY 2024
ST. DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, BOKSBURG

**THE EDUCATION AFRICA
INTERNATIONAL MARIMBA &
STEELPAN FESTIVAL**

Yours in Education

Sean Topper (Principal)

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