

Dear mums, dads, and teachers



I welcome our girls, boys, parents and staff to term three of 2024. I hope that our children and staff had a restful break and feel recharged for the busy term ahead. Holidays are a time for rest and recovery but also a time to self-reflect and reset oneself for the next phase of a school term.

Academic reports were sent home at the end of term two. I do hope that you discussed your child's academic progress with them so that the children can reset their sights on where they are and what they are trying to achieve from an academic and personal development/growth point of view. Children in primary school often do not self-reflect and self-evaluate enough as they find this process difficult. As adults we know, it is much easier to self-evaluate on things that are going well rather than the things that are not going so well. Children need to be encouraged to have a spirited approach to taking up areas for improvement. Teacher comments in the academic progress report should be used (by parents and teachers) to reaffirm children on areas they have excelled and to be used to focus on areas where children need to improve. If one adopts a positive attitude to these teacher comments and uses these comments as opportunities for growth and development, then significant progress can be made. I encourage parents to analyse the comments made by the teachers on the academic reports and to discuss them with their child's class teachers during next week's parent contact sessions. This will assist children in making progress.

We look forward to seeing our mums and dads next week during our parent contact afternoons where you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's academic progress with their class teachers. Notices for these meetings have been sent home and I appeal to all parents to keep to their appointment time slots so that every parent has some time with the class teachers. Grades 1 – 3 are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday and Grades 4 – 7 are scheduled for Wednesday. The Pre-primary teachers are sending out separate letters to match the days they are having meetings. Please make every effort to attend.

At our opening assembly on Tuesday, I chatted with the children and staff about Nelson Mandela and touched on some important lessons we can learn from this amazing icon:

1. Never give up
2. Violence is not the answer
3. Learn how to forgive
4. Service to humankind

SERVICE TO HUMANKIND – please note that we are having a civvies day tomorrow and all funds raised will be donated to the Seatides Combined School in Tongaat who were severely affected by the devastating tornado in June this year.

I look forward to a positive and fulfilling term for our St. Nicholas community.

Deus Ducit



Kamal Rugbar (Headmaster – Junior School)