



News from the CEO's desk

Whole School Newsletter Number 4

6 March 2020

Dear Parents

Re: Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

Much has been said about the Corona virus which in some instances is creating the panic that seems to be engulfing the world.

The International School of South Africa is following the advice that has been offered by a variety of health agencies such as WHO (World Health Organisation) and by other medical experts in the field that have offered a scientific opinion on the matter.

Find attached an ISASA circular which has been initiated into the school.

This morning we will be meeting with House Parents from the respective Boarding houses, staff and students to share the precautions that are being put into place to minimise potential risks of germs spreading amongst the student community.

I wish to emphasise that this is a collective effort and parents should also educate their children from home to reinforce what the school is trying to achieve on this end. The most important thing is not to create panic but to manage this matter with calmness applying the best precautionary measures we have at our disposal.

Should we receive any further formal notification from other stakeholders or experts on how to respond to the Coronavirus, you will be informed accordingly.

Primary School

All parents will receive report comments on the 1st of April which will be handed to students. This will be followed up with a Parent Teacher Conference on the 2nd of April from 13:30 – 17:00 in the Teacher classrooms. We encourage all parents to attend the meeting.

Collection of students after school – Primary School

Health and safety protocols are always upper most in our minds when working with students. Please ensure that all students are collected 10 minutes after extra-curricular activities have ended. We have now allocated a supervised waiting area for students if they have not been collected by 15:15.

Senior Primary Kgotla for Senior Primary students

PRIMARY SCHOOL

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SECONDARY SCHOOL

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"If it's important to the child, it's important to us."



Junior Primary Kgotla for Junior Primary students

All students who are waiting to be collected after 15:15 will be placed in After Care at a cost of R60.00 per hour.

It has also been brought to our attention that some students who use public transport are arriving very late in the morning and in some instances, the drivers are not dropping the students onsite, but on the road side, with students having to cross a busy road. We encourage all students to be dropped off and collected onsite.

In Term 2 we will circulate an amended extra-curricular activities schedule, which we hope will alleviate the issues of collecting students in the afternoon.

Senior School

Parent Teacher Conference for Form 1 – U6 students will take place on **Friday, 3rd April** from 08:00 until 10:30 in the Mathematics and Sixth Form Study Centre teaching area. This is a very important event as it allows students and parents to review the work undertaken thus far in the term. The meeting will also provide you with the opportunity to review the progress made this term.

With less than three weeks to go before the term ends, it is important that students continue to participate in ECAs and academic clinics after school. If students are not engaged in activities, they should be collected after school and they should find themselves working independently at home. If students cannot be collected immediately after school, they need to work independently in Lengau.

Staffing

Miss Langutani Mathebula has taken a month's sabbatical to attend a staff development workshop in the USA. We were fortunate to secure the services of Mr. Bastsirai Kasinahama who is an experienced qualified Science teacher who holds a BSc degree in Physics from the Instituto Pedagogico Enrique Jose Varona, Cuba. Many of our current senior Maths and Science teachers studied here.

Maru-a-Pula trip

We travel to Botswana this afternoon to participate in a sporting derby against African Leadership Academy, Lebone 11 and the host school in a multi-coded sport event which will include STEM activities. We wish them well as they travel on the trip. The necessary precautions will once again be shared with our travelling contingent as they travel into a foreign country related to the Coronavirus.

Swimming

Our swimmers travel to Potchefstroom this morning where both primary and high school students will participate in an Interschool swimming championship. They will be accompanied by Mrs Tania Pedro. Good luck to all our swimmers.

Inter-House Athletics

Last week we hosted the Inter-house athletics meeting. Congratulations to Falcon house for running away with the spoils in 2020. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend the event.

Entrepreneurship Day

Thank you to the Grade 5 teachers who hosted a successful Entrepreneurship day at the Primary school a week ago. Thanks to our parents for supporting this event.

Basketball

Our u15 boys travelled to St Johns in Johannesburg last week to participate in a basketball tournament and our boys acquitted themselves well.

Cambridge Awards

On Tuesday evening the International School of South Africa travelled to Johannesburg to receive the Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards. Congratulations once again to Jerome Sibande and Tshepiso Ramodimoosi.

In conclusion let me take this opportunity to thank parents for all your support thus far, and please do not hesitate to set up an appointment with me should you need any further clarification on school matters.

I am currently out of the office on a marketing trip in Tanzania. If any present or past parents from Tanzania would like to meet with me, please drop me an email via my PA – Jenna Rae at jrae@issa.co.za.

Yours sincerely



Bruce Wells
CEO/Headmaster
International School of South Africa.
Report comments Term 1 2020