

12 February 2021

Dear Parents,

I am sure we have all been grateful for the beautiful blessings of rain we received in the past two weeks but it is also good to see the sun back to balance the forces of nature.

The rain has however hampered us with the maintenance of our fields, because most of our pitches are waterlogged but hopefully with the return of more sustained sunshine we will be able to return them to a good condition soon.

Online vs Face- Face

For a variety of reasons, some parents have chosen to stay with the online platform for their children which I respect. However, I would like to encourage parents where possible to allow their children to return to Face-Face learning. The benefits of face time far outweigh the online learning platform particularly when it comes to Practical's in the Sciences and for Coursework in Art, Drama, Music and Physical Education, in preparation for their IGCSE examination classes.

Mid – Term Break

With mid – term break looming on the 25th of February, I would like to discourage boarding parents from fetching their children. Besides the huge transport costs, it will mean students having to take the COVID test upon departure and return, for students living outside of our borders. For local boarders it will mean Isolation for seven days or a COVID test before integration into the main residence after mid – term break. There will be interesting programmes lined up over the weekend to keep our boarding students productively engaged.

We look forward to welcoming parents to our HONOURS ACADEMIC AWARDS Morning on the 25th of February.

More details for this event will follow soon.

Prefect Inauguration

This week we proudly announced our diverse Prefect body to the High school community. It is my pleasure and privilege to introduce them to our parents. They have taken their Prefect Oath with honour and dignity, and I look forward to working with them as they assume their new leadership roles in the school.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Jerome Sibande - Head Boy

Elsa Kibowa - Deputy Head

Ikram Ebrahim - Deputy Head

Prefects

Resego Mosarwe

Idanai Dube

Tshiamo Monedi

Olorato Makgale

Moosa Imraan

Fay-Yaad Parker

Kyla Ngwenya

Tawananyasha Makudo

Moneo Mahummapelo

Marcia Nyemba

Potlako Majara

Valentine's Day

Today our schools celebrated the traditional Valentine's Day. The proceeds from the High School Civvies day will be donated to the Mahikeng SPCA.

The Primary School Valentine's Day was as usual a more elaborate event, with door competitions, dancing and a cake raffle.

The Primary School is on a big drive to encourage our students to read. The proceeds from today's event will go towards buying more contemporary books for the school library.

Thank you to all staff and students that have been involved in organizing today's events and thank you parents for your support.



Sport

Whilst we have not received formal notification from the Department of Basic Education about School sport, we have been engaging our students in free standing and running activities during our P.E. lessons to keep them fit and active.

In the residence we have been keeping our students busy in fitness and conditioning drills, again applying the social distancing protocols, no contact activities at this stage.

The swimming programme is well underway for our club swimmers in the High school with the approval from Swimming South Africa following the correct protocols, and our students at the Primary school are busy with beginners swimming programmes in their P.E. lessons.

I am looking forward to an imminent pronouncement about the way forward on School sport in the coming week.

Music

Our instrumental teachers begin their Music lessons on Tuesday and we look forward to hearing some musical sounds on the campus. Please do not forget to complete the appropriate application form should you want your children to learn how to play an instrument.

In conclusion, let us continue to work together as beautifully as we are and please do not hesitate to call me if there is anything you wish to clarify with me through Jenna, my PA.

Please remember to wash your hands, wear a mask and social distance.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Wells
CEO/Headmaster
International School of South Africa

