

1 July 2021

Dear Parents,

The recent announcements from the President of South Africa and the Department of Education that prompted the immediate closure of the whole education sector have derailed all our teaching programmes that was planned until the end of Term. This communication serves to update parents on the changes and adjustments made to the revised Term 3 Calendar to accommodate teaching and learning activities that were not covered in Term 2.

Revised Term 3 Calendar

The revised Term 3 Calendar is divided into two parts.

- August is set aside for the completion of teaching, testing and examinations of Term 2.
- Term 3 teaching and learning starts officially with effect from September.

Take note of the following dates:

DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY
25 July	Boarding students return
27 July	School Opens
10 August	Form 5 Examinations Start
16 August	Form Examinations Start
18 August	Form 6 Examinations Start
20 August	Forms 1, 2 & 3 Examinations Start.
27 August	End of the Examination Period
3 September	Academic Reports emailed to parents
6/7/8/9/10 September	Parent Teacher Consultation Meetings at 2.30 pm with different Forms on each day
7 October	IGCSE/AS/A Level examination starts
8 – 18 October	Mid-Term break - School breaks on Friday 8 and reopens on Monday 18 October.
18 November	Form 4 End of year Examinations
19 November	Forms 1, 2, & 3 End of Year Examinations
1 December	School Closes for Students

All July examinations have been moved to Mid-August, as such there is no time lost in completion of teaching activities of Term 2 due the sudden closure of schools.

After examinations report comments will be emailed followed up with consultation meetings with parents. There is enough time for our examination students to review, revise and practice with past papers after their mocks in preparation for the final examinations in October. New examination timetables will be shared with both parents and students in the coming weeks.

Teaching & Learning

It has been our observation that when students are on the online Platform, there is no meaningful learning, if any that takes place. Students do not write notes and do not copy any examples and illustrations being shared despite being connected on the online Platform. We understand that parents sometimes will not be at home to monitor the students' activities due to work and business commitments, as such this has created a gap in the rigour of our teaching. Teachers have found themselves repeating and reprimanding students for not taking responsibility for their learning in this regard. It is inevitable that we will always find ourselves in this situation as the pandemic is with us to stay. We therefore kindly request for your assistance during online lessons to check on student' exercise books. A better prepared student is one with all the work covered in his/her exercise book.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents for their support in navigating through the challenges of the pandemic and ensuring the safety of our students and our community. We have had our challenges as a school, but we have managed to maintain a good rhythm in our teaching and learning despite the pandemic. We continue to be guided by the Department of Education and our own Covid Plan as we look up to the start of Term 3. We urge all our students to take responsibility for themselves, family, friends, and the community at large by their continued observation of Covid regulations during the holidays.

On behalf of all teaching staff, we would like to take this opportunity in wishing all students a restful vacation guided with reviews and revision of their work to consolidate their understanding in different subjects in preparation for examinations now scheduled for August.

Let us all stay safe.

Yours sincerely

Tinashe Makudo

Deputy Head Academics