



Manor Gardens Primary School

Newsletter No. 3

22 January 2019

"There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure." – Paulo Coelho

DATES TO DIARISE

22 January	Reading Talk – Grade 1 parents in the school hall at 18h00. New Grade 2 and 3 parents are welcome.
23 January	Monkey awareness talk by Steven Smit from the Monkey Helpline at 08h30
24 January	Parent By-Election in the school hall at 17h30 for 1 vacancy only since Ben Roberts will now resign in March.
25 January	Pre-Primary Principal Breakfast
29 January	Senior Phase Swimming Gala - Individual Medley Events from 08h00 until 09h30
29 January	School Development Discussions – Postponed. You will be notified of the new date as soon as possible.
30 January	Grade 5 Cake Sale
1 February	Read Aloud Day
2 February	World Wetlands Day
5 February	Senior Phase Gala
6 February	HPV for Grade 4 girls only
6 February	High School Expo from 18h00 to 20h00 for all Grade 6 and 7 parents and pupils in the school hall
7 February	Adjourned SGB Parent By-Election Meeting
8 February	Open Day for 2020 Grades R – 7 pupils at 07h30
13 February	Grade 4 Cake Sale
14 February	Valentine's Day
15 February	Valentine's Day – Civvies Dress up at a cost of R2.00
20 February	Inter-school Kids Lit Quiz
27 February	Foundation Phase Gala (Grades 1 – 3)
5 March	Boys D & D Gala at Kings Park Stadium
7 March	Girls D & D Gala at Kings Park Stadium
8 March	Foundation Phase Parent Viewing for Grades R – 3 from 12h30 to 13h00
11 March	Class and staff photos
13 March	Grade 1 Assembly
13 March	Movie Night for Grades R – 3 in the school hall
14 March	Senior Phase Music Evening
15 March	End of Term 1 – Break up Day
21 March	Public Holiday – Human Rights Day
2 April	Second Term starts
19 April	Public Holiday - Good Friday
21 April	Easter Sunday
22 April	Public Holiday – Family Day

GRADE 1 READING TALK AND NEW GRADE 2 AND 3 PARENTS WELCOME

Date : 22 January 2019
 Day : Tuesday
 Time : 18h00 – 19h30
 Venue : School Hall

We encourage **ALL** Grade 1 parents and **NEW** parents of children in Grades 2 and 3 to attend so as to become familiar with the MGPS approach to teaching reading. There will be books on sale which may be donated to the school in your child's name. A child minding facility will be available in the Junior Primary Aftercare room.

SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY PARENT BY - ELECTION MEETING REMINDER

There will be a SGB parent by-election meeting on 24 January at 17h30 for 1 parent vacancy. Please return the reply slip to your child's class teacher. Should a quorum of 15% of voters on the parent voters roll, that is 114 parents, not be present, the parent by-election meeting will be adjourned to Thursday 7 February at 17h30.

Nominations forms are available from the school's administration office. A Nomination Form and an Acceptance of Nomination Form must be completed by the nominee and his/her proposer and seconder and returned to school by Thursday 24 January.

A child minding service will be available for parents attending the parent by-election meetings.

MGPS THEME FOR 2019 IS 'BE KIND'

Manor Gardens Primary School's theme for 2019 is 'Be Kind.' This is the quality of being friendly, generous and considerate. It can also be described as being good-natured, kind-hearted, caring, loving, helpful, thoughtful, unselfish, cooperative, compassionate, understanding, big-hearted, courteous, agreeable and pleasant.

In Afrikaans we say, 'Wees altyd goedgesind.'

In IsiZulu we say, 'Iba nomusa.'

'Kind Words' by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Kind hearts are the gardens
 Kind thoughts are the roots,
 Kind words are the flowers,
 Kind deeds are the fruits.

Take care of your garden
And keep out the weeds,
Fill it with sunshine,
Kind words and kind deeds.

PROTOCOL – LINE OF COMMUNICATION FOR PROFESSIONAL AND CURRICULUM MATTERS

When you have a particular concern about the ***performance of a MGPS staff member or the quality of MGPS curriculum provision***, please immediately contact the **Principal** via letter; email (principal@mgps.org.za); telephone or appointment.

PROTOCOL – LINE OF COMMUNICATION FOR CHILD'S PERFORMANCE

When you have a particular concern about an aspect of your ***child's performance***, the **correct channels** to follow are:

Step 1: Write to the teacher concerned to request an appointment or place your concern in writing for the teacher's attention;

Step 2: If the matter is unresolved or you feel that you cannot talk directly to the class teacher, then the next point of contact is the appropriate **Head of Department**;

Step 3: If you remain dissatisfied after following the above steps, then approach the **Principal**; contact Mrs Daniels (principal's secretary) to make an appointment or send an email to ydaniels@mgps.org.za

GRADE R - 7 OPEN DAY 2020

Date : **Friday 8 February 2019**

Time : **07h30 – 10h00**

We invite all prospective 2020 parents and children to attend a special assembly and a guided tour of the school. For further information, contact the admissions secretary, Youlene Daniels, on 031-261 1401 or email ydaniels@mgps.org.za. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

APPLICATION FOR CURRENT GRADE R TO GRADE 1 IN 2020

Please be advised that admission into Grade 1 at Manor Gardens Primary School is not automatic. An application form will be sent home with your child for re-registration into Grade 1 in 2020. If your details have changed (e.g. address, contact numbers, employment, etc.) kindly update them and attach the required supporting documents. **If your details have not changed, do not attach any documents.** Please return this completed application form to the Grade R class teacher as soon as possible. An additional language choice form will also be sent home to be returned as soon as possible. The Open Day is only for new, prospective parents.

NAME BADGES – IMPORTANT FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING

All children are requested to wear their name badges to school every day so that that can be referred to by their names. This will promote a sense of identity and a sense of belonging within the school community. If your child needs a replacement name badge, please send R20.00 in a clearly marked sealed envelope to the class teacher by Friday 15 February 2019.

QUINTATHLON CHALLENGE – Mrs Sobey

The Quintathlon Challenge allows Grades 1 – 7 children of differing abilities to be challenged in an interesting and enjoyable way. Papers are set and marked by suitably experienced teachers. The main aim of this competition is to encourage children to think out of the box. If you would like your child to enter this (all entrants receive certificates) please fill in the slip at the end of this newsletter and return it with payment to the class teacher, in a clearly marked envelope. Entries must be returned by Monday 25 February. The Challenge will take place on Monday 10 June 2019.

- The Five Challenges** : (all included on one paper at a cost of R25.00 per student)
- English : emphasis here is on deduction, reading between the lines, logic.
 - Mathematics : problem solving, deduction, logic.
 - Science : deduction and logic.
 - Pure Logic : puzzles and activities.
 - General Knowledge : a fun way for students to learn about the world around them.

Over 8000 participants entered the National Quintathlon Challenge 2018 and MGPS came 4th in the Top 20 schools. Well done to all those who participated in 2018!

CAR PARK SAFETY

In the interest of safety, please comply with the following:

- Drive slowly
- Only park on one side of the car park, in the diagonal parking bays.
- Do not park parallel to Dale Road. This endangers children crossing the car park because they are not visible to the motorists of oncoming or reversing vehicles.
- Respect the traffic cones which have been placed in the car park to stop parents from parking parallel with Dale Road and obstructing the view of pedestrians and motorists and putting their lives and vehicles at risk.
- Additional parking is available on the grass verge beyond the parking area in Dale Road.
- We urge parents to stop parking on the pavement on either side of Dale Road and Wheeler Road to drop off and collect children because you increase the risk of children and adults being involved in an accident. The allocated car park has been designed for quick, efficient and safe collections.

COMPULSORY TO BRING SWIMMING KIT FOR PE LESSONS IN FIRST AND FOURTH TERMS

It is compulsory for children to bring their swimming kit to school for their weekly PE lessons in the first and fourth terms. Unless the children swim, they will not benefit from the coaching provided by the sports co-ordinator and the Beavers Swim Club coach and improve their swimming skills, strokes and stamina. Children who do not bring their swimming kit to school will have to complete written work at the poolside and may not disturb the swimming lesson. Children who fail to bring their swimming kit for a second time will attend a Friday afternoon detention.

MGPS RAINY DAY EXTRA MURAL ACTIVITY POLICY

1. No activity will be cancelled. The children and coaches will remain at school until the time the activity usually ends.
2. Indoor activities will proceed as usual and outdoor activities will be conducted indoors.
3. Outdoor coaches will be prepared for the event of a rainy afternoon and keep their children occupied with tasks related to their outdoor activity.
4. Children may depart at the end of their school day (12h30 or 13h50) if a match has been cancelled, for whatever reason, provided they have already had two afternoons of practice and their parents have been notified accordingly.
5. When a match is cancelled, for whatever reason, coaches will remain at school until the time when the match usually ends to supervise children until they are collected.

SPORTS NEWS – Mrs Fernandez and Mr Bester: Sports Practices and Matches: Dress Code

Please ensure that your children come to school with the correct sports kit required for that particular sport. Please be advised that if they are not appropriately attired, they will not be allowed to participate in a sports practice or match. Please teach them to be responsible by making sure that they do not leave their sports kits at home, but pack them in their bags the night before.

Please note: The white collared La Coste sports shirt with green badge is worn at sports matches only and the house colour T-shirt is worn at sports practices only.

Fixtures**Cricket**

DATE		TEAM	SCHOOL	VENUE
23 January	Wednesday	U13B	St Henry's Marist College	MGPS
26 January	Saturday	U10 and U11	St Henry's Marist College	St Henry's Marist College
		U13A	St Henry's Marist College	MGPS
30 January	Wednesday	U10	Pitlochry Primary School	Pitlochry Primary School
		U11	Pitlochry Primary School	MGPS
31 January	Thursday	U13A	Pitlochry Primary School	Pitlochry Primary School
6 February	Wednesday	U11	Glenmore Primary School	Glenmore Primary School
		U13A	Glenmore Primary School	MGPS
7 February	Thursday	U10	Glenmore Primary School	Glenmore Primary School
19 February	Tuesday	U11	Eden College	Eden College
		U13	Eden College	MGPS
26 February	Tuesday	U10	Clarence Primary School	MGPS
		U11	Clarence Primary School	Clarence Primary School
28 February	Thursday	U13A	Clarence Primary School	MGPS

Netball

Tuesday 19 February : U11 and U13 vs Eden College at Eden College

Wednesday 6 March : U11 and U13 vs Curro – Embury at MGPS

Mini cricket

DATE	GRADE TWO – Starting at 13h00	VENUE	GRADE THREE – Starting at 14h00
31 January	Teams 1 and 2	Eden College	Teams 1 and 2
7 February	Teams 1 and 2	Eden College	Teams 1 and 2
14 February	Teams 1 and 2	Eden College	Teams 1 and 2
21 February	Teams 1 and 2	Eden College	Teams 1 and 2
7 March	Teams 1 and 2	Eden College	Teams 1 and 2

**CAROL LOTTERING
PRINCIPAL**

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QUINTATHLON CHALLENGE 2019 REPLY SLIP

Please fill in the details below and return this tear off slip to your child's class teacher, together with the amount of **R25.00** in an envelope clearly marked 'Quintathlon Challenge 2019' by Monday 25 February.

Name of child: _____

Grade: _____

I want my child entered in the Quintathalon Challenge, please find enclosed the entry fee of R25.00.

Parent's name: _____ Parent's sign: _____

Date: _____