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74 Main Road, St James, 7945

# STAR OF THE SEA CONVENT SCHOOL

14 January 2021

NEWSLETTER NO 1 TERM 1

**A very warm welcome back to school to all children and a special welcome to our new 'Stars'**

Dear Parents

We wish everyone an enjoyable, happy and safe 2021. We start this year with our country and Cape Town still in the grips of this deadly pandemic. We will start our year alternating between Groups A & B with the Grades R to 6, our Grade 7's will be attending every day. With the new variant being able to spread faster, it is important that we continue to follow all of the school's Covid guidelines.

Furthermore, I stress that we need your help to ensure that we keep the virus out of our school. If someone in your circle has contact, feels ill or tests positive, please keep your child/ren at home. If you are waiting for test results, then they need to stay at home.

Lastly, if you see anything that we are not doing or should add to our protocols because it would keep our children and staff SAFE, please TELL US. We value your contributions.

Our values we highlighting this year are the following:

<u>FIRST TERM</u>	<u>SECOND TERM</u>	<u>THIRD TERM</u>	<u>FOURTH TERM</u>
THOUGHTFULNESS	SELF/FORGIVENESS	RESILIENCE	PATIENCE
APPRECIATION	HARMONY	DETERMINATION	EMPATHY

Please discuss these values with your children.

We are proud of our school and in particular of our school uniform. While we are starting the year in civvies, we appeal to parents to see that the children take care of their possessions and, for example, do not deface their school bags by writing on them. All items of clothing must be clearly labelled.

Hair must be kept neat and tidy and tied up if longer than shoulder length.

All masks worn should be made of three layers of material and should preferably have two lengths of elastic which go around the back of your child's head. The ones that have to be tied on come undone and the ones elasticated around the ears do not stay on most of the children. Masks must be washed daily.



Principal: Alfonso Pereira

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Absenteeism from school, not related to Covid, illness or family responsibility, is discouraged, especially towards the end of the term. Please inform the school timeously about any absenteeism. School Day \* note Wednesday dismissal time has changed \*

School day starts 8am	R	1 & 2	3 to 7
Monday	13:00	13:20	14:40
Tuesday	13:00	13:20	14:40
Wednesday	13:00	13:20	14:10*
Thursday	13:00	13:20	14:40
Friday	13:00	13:20	13:20

Arrival and dismissal times:

We receive children from 7:30 onwards

Arrival time	Grade
7: 30	7 & 6
7: 40	5 & 4
7: 50	3 & 2
7: 55	1, R & mop up late-comers

Dismissal times	Grade
13:00	R
13:20	1 & 2
Mon, Tues & Thurs @14:30; Wed @14:00; Fri @13:15	4 & 5
Mon, Tues & Thurs @14:10; Wed @14:10; Fri @13:20	6 & 7

REOPENING		Early closure at 13: 20 Mon 15 Feb. & Tues Feb. ONLY. Normal times thereafter.
Monday 15 February	Tuesday 16 February	
GROUP A (Gr R to 6)	GROUP B (Gr R to 6)	
Grade 7's attend every day		

For the safety of the children, it is requested that parents arrange transport to arrive on time especially in the afternoon. Children remaining after 20 minutes will be placed into after-care.

Textbooks must be covered and looked after. Please sign the letter to take receipt of the textbooks received by your child. We will do regular textbook checks and if they are damaged, we will ask you to replace it.

Writing books must be covered with plastic. It's important to set the tone for the year in terms of the quality of the work and handwriting; and therefore, covering it neatly is a good start.

Stationery: Please ensure that the children have the necessary stationery including the reams of paper. Teachers will communicate further.

We, as a staff, are committed to improving the discipline in the school. While the discipline has been exemplary, we cannot relax. We will continue with all the different initiatives throughout the year. Please remind them that we need to greet and say “please” and “thank you”.



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Volunteers: As all of our Wordworks volunteers are senior citizens, we will not be restarting the reading program yet. We will direct children needing extra help to the Wordworks website.

FRC: All our school functions and grade excursions are on hold.

After-care will be operational. Please ensure that proper arrangements are made as to after-care and especially who will be responsible for collecting your child.

School communication application: We ask that you download the Rise School Communicator App onto your phone as all communication will be sent via this app. Please find the app, 'Rise School Communicator', on Play or Apple Store. Once you have selected our school, click on billing to link your child using their ID number or Cemis number. The office can help to link your child.

**UNIFORM:** Items of uniform sold at school.

<b>Sunhat</b>	<b>R 120</b>	Star T-shirt	
Waterproof jacket			

The sunhat is an essential part of our summer uniform and protects our children when outdoors.

**We need your continued support and are always grateful for your assistance.**

**Yours sincerely**



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