



Frances
Vorweg

SkoolvirSerebraal- en LeergestremdeKinders
School for Cerebral Palsied and Learning Disabled Children

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Dear Parents

We once again reach the end of another busy week and as we enter a so-called rest period (Sat & Sun) and start this weekend, let's do so with a word of encouragement

Often we hear of people that are hampered in life and perhaps caught in the snares of past events. The Bible tells of a man who just so caught up with past events and who was even tortured in his mind about a terrible past. It describes this man as a person who roamed the land of the dead, living in a cemetery because the living feared him. Loose chains hung from his body where he had broken free from his shackles, but his spirit was still in captivity. It was then that he came face to face with Man from Galilee, the one called Jesus, who commanded the fears and oppression to leave the man. This man had endured a painful life of abuse, a life of dissent, a life of being an outcast and one of hopelessness. It is no wonder that the man begged to follow Jesus with His disciples when the opportunity came. His home held only painful reminders of the misery he had endured. However, that was not to be. He was encouraged to stay behind and to tell others what had happened. His testimony of healing and restoration man would have a great impact on those who were once witnesses to his agony.

So it is with each one of us. It isn't easy to live in a place where painful memories abide, but those same memories are an opportunity to share what God and new opportunities have done for us. Our testimony may open the door for hope to flourish in another persons' heart. Events where God intervenes in our lives or where we are freed from terrible circumstances or perhaps where we find a new lease on life from an encounter with a person, a church or God happen and not only affect us, but also have the power to rescue others from despair as we share our lives and events with them. Today, perhaps you need to muster up the courage to share your story and proclaim the Good News to those you live and work with, that they too can find a new lease or a new freedom in life.

Perhaps you would like to say the following prayer as you consider today's thought that I shared with you. LORD, I have places in my life where I can see that you rescued me. Sometimes I avoid those places because they hold painful memories. Let me see my past hurts as opportunities to share how you have healed me so that my life's story can give hope to someone else. Thank you that neither bad memories nor difficult circumstances can silence how you *intervened in my life, showed me your mercy, and rescued me*

Vehicle Restrictions, Parking and Through-fare

I think it's every school's problem, every home-owners nightmare and every free-loving persons idea that car, 4x4, combi, taxi and bus traffic must flow and not be hindered.

This is our stance at Frances as well. However, as you can see from the photos, the expense and upkeep of maintaining the ground where the traffic travels is costly and erosion is starting to become a major concern

With this in mind, we have planted poles and guides to save the sideways and ground next to the road that is travelled by parents and transporters each day when dropping off and picking up the children. I have noticed that drivers seem to park in a manner that may impede or prevent good flow of traffic. May I ask that when parking you remain considerate of other vehicle drivers and of the children who walk along the road to waiting vehicles.



Concern and Care

It has come to my attention that parents, care-givers and families are leaving their children in the school waiting ('Hok') area for lengthy periods on many afternoons. Please note the following:

The school has a formal care and supervision programme for children in the waiting area for the following times:

- 07:00 – 07:45 for all children. The school is opened at 06:30 in the morning, but no formal supervision is on hand until 07:00
- 12:30 for the pre Grade R's & Grade R
- 13:00 for the Grade 1 & Grade 2's
- 13:30 for the Grade 3's
- 13:45 – 15:00 all other Grades - children who wait for transport after school



Sport



Parents are to note that school athletics team will be participating in an athletics meeting on Friday 11th March 2022. The bus will leave at 06:30 for the event and return at 17:00.

The school bus that normally rides the Alberton route will be used for this occasion and I ask parents to make alternate arrangements to travel to school on this day. We thank you for your support and know that our athletes will do our school proud at the event.

The athletics team will be managed by Ms Potgieter who, together with several teachers and assistants will provide guidance and support for the athletes on the day. We look forward to some good results at this event.



Paralympic Games – Beijing



The Chinese Paralympic athlete pulls himself up via a cable system in order to light the eternal flame of sport and Paralympic games.



Please take time to watch these games and enjoy the sport offered by the world's best athletes as they compete in Beijing.

You will be pleasantly surprised at the wonder of these games

Parent-Teacher Meeting

Please note that the next parent meeting will be held on 09th April 2022 at 08:00 in the school in the morning. This is an opportunity to meet with your child's teachers and to establish a good foundation for interaction and a wonderful platform for building good relationships. Please make every effort to attend.

Current Exams and Assessments

The following Phases are busy with formal and term assessments:

- Intermediate Phase
- Senior Phase
- ToC Phase

Test, exam and assessment dates were handed out to each child timeously and we trust that our learners are all hard at work preparing and grinding away to do well in their respective tests/exams. Please check your child's diary for exam dates, assessments due and classwork or homework needing to be completed. Contact the schools should you have any queries in this regard.

Discipline and Guidance

I'd like to ask parents to read through the diaries they have as it contains the Code of Conduct that the school uses in order to manage discipline at the school. Parents are welcome to approach the school to obtain clarity on any section of the Code. I am insisting that the Code be implemented stringently as discipline is not an area that we can forgo. It has in the past been the case where parents questioned and where not entirely au fait with the Code and this led to parents being unhappy with discipline meted out to misbehaving learners.

Various discipline points are gathered to manage negative behaviour whilst points are gained to get positive rewards. I'm going to quote the words of a video attributed and doing the rounds in many circles, by an education manager, when he said, 'if you can't manage your children at home, don't expect us to train and manage them at school. Don't send your misbehaving children to school in order to learn discipline.' Harsh words, but true. We are in the business of education and curriculum delivery. Help us to achieve this by managing discipline as it should from the house outwards.

School Fees, Bus Fares and Exemptions

Please note that exemptions applications for school fees are currently under way. Also note there is no exemption for the bus fare of R500 (increased from the end of Feb 2022 due to petrol price increase). Kindly assist the school through your paying of school fees and supporting the bus programme by paying your bus fare for those children using the bus.

- School fees – R12000,00 Per Year
- Hostel fees – R16000,00 Per Year
- Aftercare – R8800,00 Per Year
- Bus – R500,00 Per Month

I trust you will have a wonderful weekend.

Every blessing

Mark Lynch

Please pray for the women, children and people who have been affected by the war in Europe.

