

Newsletter

17 January 2018

First day back...

The hustle and bustle of the first day back at school is so much fun to watch. Welcome to all our important little people. May this year be a fabulous one for you and your family.

To avoid confusion, in our newsletters, our preschool children (Grade RRR, RR and Grade R) are referred to as "Mickey Mouse pupils", and Grade 1 - 7 pupils are referred to as "Solid Foundations pupils".



Parents' Meeting reminder...

Don't forget our Grade 1-7 Parent's Meeting at school NEXT WEEK SATURDAY (27 January) at 8h00 sharp for Grade 1 - 3 and 9h00 sharp for Grade 4 -7.

Attendance at the meetings is compulsory for our Grade 1-5 parents. The Grade 6 and 7 parents can attend with pleasure if they would like an opportunity to meet with the senior staff.

See you there.

Budget blues...

Don't forget that school fees are past due for January, and that the "Outings and Shows" fees are due at the beginning of February with February's school fees.



Brain food...

Did you know that our school has a healthy lunch policy? This means we will clamp down on chips, fizzy cool-drinks, sweets and cookies in your child's lunchbox. The exceptions to this rule are Fridays and cake sale days. On Fridays, you can spoil as much as your sweetheart desires and we will join in the binge by selling hotdogs (R10) and tuck. Our tuck-shop selection is very limited and R10 for tuck should suffice. If you are looking for alternative treat ideas for Mondays to Thursdays, why not consider popcorn, bran muffins, rusks, nuts, cereal, dried fruit and biltong?

We also strongly recommend water instead of juice in your child's bottle. It's healthy, helps with spills and keeps our playgrounds bee-free.

Remember...Good food = good mind!

Extramural activities...

Our extra-mural prices and days have been updated on the school website (www.solidfoundationsprimary.com). Many of the extra-mural coaches will be pitching their particular extra-mural at the pupils during assemblies in January, so keep your ears and eyes open for the best option for your child for 2018. A reminder to contact the extra-mural coaches directly regarding enrolments and payments.



Grade 5-7 extra bits...

Please could all our Grade 5 - 7 pupils have a homework diary, dictionary, calculator and maths set (compass, protractor etc) for school. The diary must be brought to every class and we would love your assistance in checking that your child is recording their homework and in helping them



to plan ahead. We are fine with any type of diary, but you may want to consider purchasing something light-weight.

...and the extra bits for Mickey Mouse pupils...

We have a few extra requests for our little people in Grade RRR to Grade R. Can all of our preschool children bring the following items to school:

1. A grown-ups t-shirt to use as an apron for painting. This must be packed in your child's bag **everyday**, as we can't guarantee which days will be the "painty" ones! Please wash the shirt when necessary during the year.
2. A sunhat. Our playgrounds are largely shaded, but certain parts get full sun, so let's protect those precious young skins.
3. A spare change of clothes daily (if your child is prone to little accidents).
4. A box of tissues during the course of the year. We go through hundreds in our war against runny noses!



Mickey Mouse reading programme and vocab programme...

We will launch our reading programme and vocab programme in two weeks' time. We would like our brave pre-schoolers to settle in before adding this extra responsibility. More info will follow in our newsletters.

Juicy junk...

There is a traditional rumour that we have a hungry "Junk Monster" living at our school. Please will you help us feed him? Don't ever toss the following items again:

- Old calendars and desk pads
- Toilet roll inners and long roll inners
- Washed (ideally with Jik or bleach please) plastic milk cartons and water-rinsed soda bottles
- Magazines and any paper used on one side
- Matchboxes, toothpaste tube boxes, cereal boxes, cigarette boxes and shoe boxes
- Wool and buttons
- Paper plates and pipe cleaners
- Old cards (Christmas or birthday)
- Polystyrene trays. (If used for meat - please bleach rinse for obvious health reasons)



You can leave all your junk outside the kitchen door at the preschool centre and watch how it magically just disappears!

We also have a fantastic Mondi paper-recycling programme. Don't hesitate to send your used newspaper and office paper to us.



Classifieds...

(Placing an advert in the classifieds section of our newsletter costs R50. Please email your ad to the office -in WORD format- by Monday of the week that you want it to feature.) Unfortunately, we do not send out any adverts as attachments. Adverts may be a maximum size of $\frac{1}{4}$ A4 and will be pasted in the weekly newsletter under the classifieds section.

Knitting and crocheting classes for kids...

Mrs Bellwood would like to offer your child an opportunity to learn knitting or crochet. She would like to start up a crochet group and a knitting group at the school as of the first week in February. In order to do this, she needs to get an indication of how many children would be interested and which they would prefer to learn. The cost will be R180-00 per month and will include a ball of wool per month.

This will be suitable for grade 1-7. Please contact Bronwyn on 082-468-5524 or e-mail on bron.bellwood@gmail.com

Wheels to and from school...

We would recommend the following transport company for transport arrangements to and from school:

- Liz Joshua: 079-029-8047

If you are going with another transport company please confirm that the driver has the appropriate licence and is not overloading the car. Our children are too precious to take any risks!



Last thoughts...

We are thrilled to begin this year with an amazing group of teachers, pupils and parents! 2018 can only be blessed! Keep in touch with your child's teacher and the principal as we pride ourselves in our open door policy (011-976-5300 or admin@solidfoundationsprimary.com), and remember to regularly include a prayer for us as a school.

Prayerfully and playfully
The Teachers

THE FOLLOWING SECTION IS FOR NEW PUPILS AND PARENTS ONLY:

We would just like to remind you of the facts which will help you to navigate your journey with us in 2018:

- Our school has regular cake sales as fund-raisers. The money generated through these sales is given to the hosting class to purchase luxury items for their classroom. Participation in these cake sales is completely voluntary, but is a great way to demonstrate support for your child's teacher! If your child's class is hosting, you are invited to bake or buy something delicious and send it to school.
- If it is your child's birthday and you would like to send something special to school for your child to celebrate, please could you stick to cup-cakes only. Party packs and fizzy juices are really impractical for us (and when last did you try to cut a round, creamy cake into 24 attractive slices?!!) Cupcakes are neat and fuss free. Thanks for your understanding.
- Please don't allow your child to bring toys or technology devices to school. If you would like your child to have a cell phone or tablet at school, we would kindly ask that it is handed in at the office in the morning and collected at the end of the school day. As teachers, we spend all our energy interacting with our children. Looking after their new Christmas presents too is a little more than we signed up for☺!
- No child is allowed to have medicine in their school bag. If your child is sick, send the medicine directly to the office through an adult, with clear instructions on when and how you would like us to administer the medication. This policy is for the safety of all of our children. If your child has a contagious condition (e.g. lice, ring worm or chicken pox) they unfortunately have to remain at home until given the "all clear" by a health-care professional.
- Please update your telephone number and email address with us as soon as it changes. It is very frightening for a child to experience an injury or feel sick and not be able to contact mom or dad. Thanks.
- Our Mickey Mouse pupils will be divided into small maths groups for early morning instruction. Please ensure that your child is at school by 7h25. Trust us, they do not like missing out on this special time with their teachers.

Have a beautiful 2018 journey with us!

