

Newsletter

16 January 2019



Parents Meetings this Saturday (excluding preschool)...

Grade 1-7, please remember to attend your Parent's Meeting this Saturday (19 January).

Grade 1- 3:

Compulsory attendance in your child's classroom
8h00 sharp

Grade 4:

Compulsory attendance in your child's classroom
9h00 sharp

Grade 5-7:

Compulsory for NEW Grade 5 parents. Optional for repeating Grade 5 parents and Grade 6-7 parents. In the school hall.

9h00 sharp

High school choices...

Don't forget that our Grade 7 pupils should have enrolled in a high school of their choice already (if they are going to private institutions). Most high schools will be testing our pupils for entrance and bursaries in February and March this year. Please don't wait.

Ashton International College invites our pupils to an open day on Saturday the 23rd of February between 9h00 and 12h00.



Foundation phase reality check...

Please note that the 1-7 point scale we use on our report cards in Grade 1-3 is not a reflection of your child's isolated attainment, but your child's attainment in comparison to his/her peers e.g. if all the pupils can read fluently, the bar for "average" is a 5, and most of our pupils will attain a 5. It is only the exceptionally strong pupils who will attain a 6 or, even more rarely, a 7.

We have been hearing some distressing stories about pupils who have been punished for not getting straight 7's on their report! As the standard of education at our school is exceptionally high, it is completely unrealistic to place this expectation on your child. Let's support our little ones for doing their best!





School fees...

Please remember to use your child's name and surname as a reference for any payments to the school. We had somebody use "Solid Foundations" as their reference and paid R4500. Was this you?

One last reminder that school fees are paid AHEAD for twelve months, unless you have selected the eleven-month payment plan. January fees are now overdue and you will unfortunately be charged a penalty if you have not already paid. Congratulations to the majority of our parents who have paid promptly and allow us to operate efficiently!

MS Uniform news...

We are aware that MS Uniforms has had a few teething problems this year. The great news is that our previous school seamstress, Sharmyne, has been invited (as of this week) to partner with them at their shop to assist with the administrative side of things. MS will be visiting our school again on the 1st of February, so if you would like to place any orders telephonically or ask for assistance, MS will serve you conveniently between 6h30 and 8h00 at school on the 1st of Feb.



Exciting extra-mural news...

Our website has been updated for all parents who are keen to find out more about the extra-murals we're offering this year. Please check the days and times, as they might have changed from last year. The office has enrolment forms for most of the extra murals offered at our school, so please pop us a request if you'd like one.



We are also thrilled to introduce a glee club as an extra mural this year!

Wikipedia defines a glee club as follows:

A **glee club** is a musical group or choir group...which traditionally specializes in the singing of short songs—[glees](#)—by trios or quartets.

Teacher Kathryn is our director and is targeting the Grade 5-7 group for this extramural activity. It will be a 30min per week rehearsal of song and dance, with a focus on mostly contemporary music. Students will have to audition in order to join, and the auditions will be running throughout January. A list will be placed outside the hall with audition times, which will mostly be during first break. All students have to prepare is a verse and chorus of any song of their choice. The membership fee will only be R200 per term, and is payable upon the student being accepted into the group.

Lessons will start from the beginning of Feb, at 7-7:30 on a Friday morning before school. Looking forward to seeing all the musical talent your children have to offer! Here are Teacher Kathryn's contact details

C: 072 515 8213

E: kathryn@kgmusic.co.za

W: www.kgmusic.co.za

Tiny timetable error...

Please note that the Grade 6M timetable has a slight error on it. Their "late day" on Thursday is until 14h10 and not until 14h00 as was printed on their time-tables. Please inform your transport companies, and we apologise for the mistake from our side.



Assessment plans for term 1...

We have attached term 1's assessment plans for our Grade 5-7 parents to today's newsletter email. Please print it out and pop it on your fridge to help your child with some fore-planning for the term.

Solid's international stars...

Lethabo Tsunke has been selected as part of the squad to represent South Africa in the 2019 Taekwondo World Championship in Brazil. The tournament is scheduled to take place between the 5th and 11th of August 2019 (preliminary dates). Lethabo started doing Taekwondo when he was just 6 years old, and at 7 years of age he qualified to represent SA in the UK for the 2015 Taekwondo World Championship, unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances he could not attend this tournament. He continued working hard at his craft and has again qualified in 2018 for this championship, this time as a black belt holder. He will officially receive his South African colours at this tournament. Well done Lethabo!



Another two children worth applauding are Bontle Mtimkulu (recently relocated to Pretoria, but was a pupil in 2018) and Ratang Ngoepe. These two Solid Foundations pupils went with UCMAS Kempton - Birch to the International Competition in Malaysia in December. The competition took place on 9 & 10 December 2018, and 62 countries competed at UNITEN International University. Both of these ladies came back home with third placing trophies for their participating levels. UCMAS is hoping to take the Solid Foundations students to an even higher level this year.



The UCMAS International Competition 2019 will be held in Cambodia during December 2019. Pupils wanting to participate in the South African National Competition 2019 and/or the Lesotho National Competition 2019 are required to qualify with a distinction mark. Well done little maths whizzes!





Keep in touch...

Please remember to **DOWNLOAD** and **CUSTOMISE** your D6 App for 2019 e.g. if your child was in Grade 5 last year you do need to go into the App to customise for Grade 6 this year.

Remember that homework is uploaded daily for your convenience.

Open door...

Your child's teacher is the first port of call if you have a concern or complement. Please make an appointment and come in and see us at any time.



Classifieds...

- My daughter is a fully trained au pair who recently lost her position due to her family relocating. She's particularly good with small children. Please contact me if you're interested in hiring the best. Janice Parker 011 395 2070 / 071 116 4825/6.
- Young Engineers is about to launch for 2019. Get on board! Please contact the office for enrolment forms.



Dear Parent,

Throughout the school year, we will provide your child with a fun and enriching science programme. We strive to mould the engineers of the future using the old and familiar Lego® blocks. Each lesson will begin with the study of a principle of physics, mathematics and mechanical engineering through experiments and stories. We will then go on to implement the principle using original and motorized Lego® models that the children will build.

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS



Our award-winning curriculum has obtained global recognition and was found to improve your child's achievements.

Lesson Plan: Theoretical explanation on physics, mathematics and engineering issues; Building with a unique motorized Lego® kit; Playing with and enhancing models

Added values for programme participants:

Foster planning and time management skills ■ Encourage independent creative thinking
Develop ones ability to analyze engineering processes ■ Broaden knowledge of laws of physics and various natural phenomena ■ Improve spatial recognition ■ Cultivate a sense of self-efficacy
Expand interpersonal communication skills



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Young Engineers South Africa

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Prayerfully and playfully

The Teachers

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