

Newsletter

2 March 2022



SPORTS DAY COUNT DOWN!

We are getting so excited about our upcoming Sports Day. 10 more sleeps!

Date: Saturday the 12th of March 2022

Time: Preschoolers 7h30 for 7h50. Grade 1-7 8h30 for 9h00.

Expected ending times: Preschoolers 9h30 and Grade 1-7 11h30

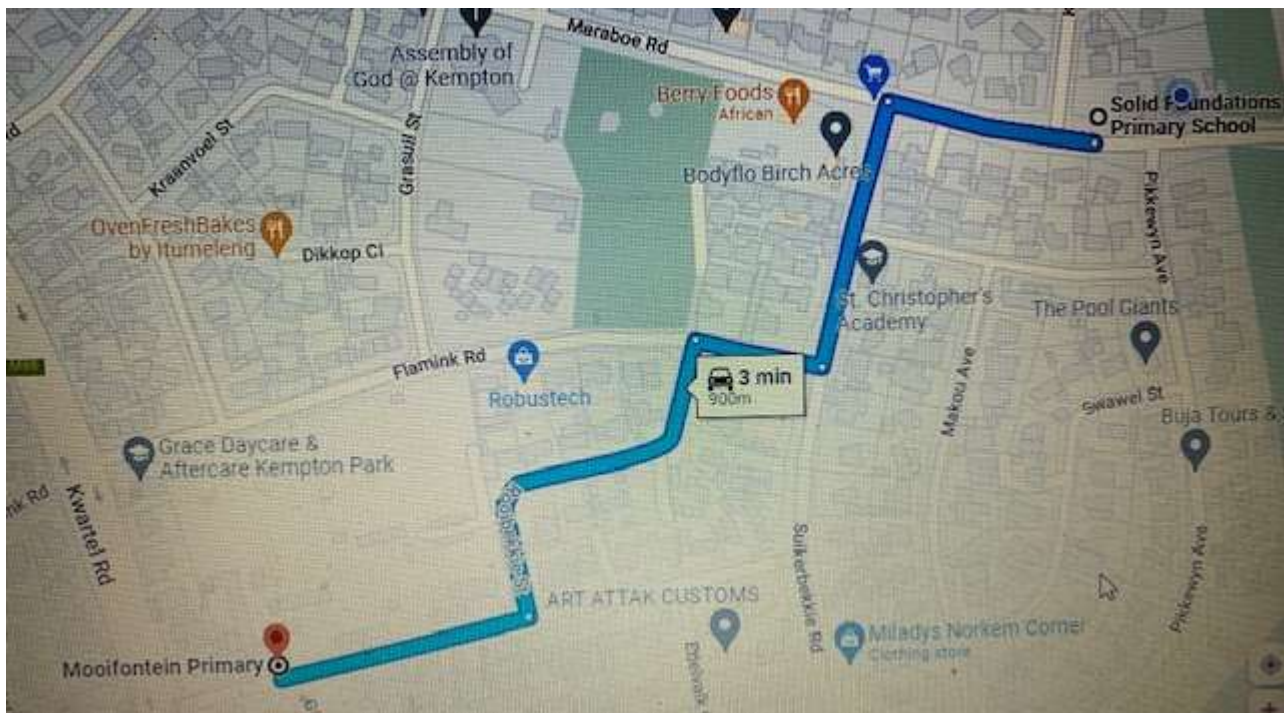
Where: Laerskool Mooifontein (see map)

Dress Code: PE uniforms (pre-schoolers may wear grey or maroon shirts and Grade 1-7 pupils may wear grey or coloured house shirts). Bibs will be provided on the day to divide children into their correct "Houses".

What to bring: Parents must bring chairs or blankets to sit on. Don't forget sunscreen and sunhats. Mooifontein tuck shop will be selling food, sweets and cooldrink, but we recommend you pack in extra water.

Every child (Grade RRR-7) is expected to attend Sports Day. Please RSVP to your child's teacher if you are unable to attend.

Directions to Mooifontein Laerskool (venue for Sports Day - 3 minutes' drive from our school):



- Drive straight down Maraboe Street (in the direction away from Moorivier Drive)
- Turn left at the first stop sign into Suikerbekkie
- Turn right at the first road into Flamink
- Turn left at the first road into Rooibekkie. Follow the curve of the road to Mooifontein's entrance.

School collection times...

We would like to remind you about our school policy regarding collection times. To be fair to all our parents who pay R1000 per month for After Care services and to be fair to our waiting pupils, all non-After Care children should be collected within a $\frac{1}{2}$ hour after their last class. It is really heartbreaking to see young little ones waiting longer than this. The latest we will permit collection without charging you for After Care is **14h30**. Thereafter **you will be charged** an After Care fee.



Any child collected after 14h30 will also have to be signed out on a clip board at the gate. If your child does an extra-mural and is not in After Care, they need to be collected within $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of their extra-mural's ending time e.g. Netball for Grade 6 and 7 ends at 15h15. These netball girls can be collected between 15h15 and 15h45, no charge. Any collections later than 15h45 will be charged.

Although sadly we have had parents get quite aggressive about this policy, it is fair. Children who pay the extra After Care fee are welcome to use the school facilities until 17h30 daily. Children who don't pay, need to go home.



Internet Café...

As you may be aware, Mrs Babcock agreed to open her classroom for internet usage between 14h00 and 15h00 every Wednesday afternoon.

Please note that this "extra-mural internet café" is **ONLY** for our children who **do not** have uncapped internet access at home. The internet café is also **only** open for senior primary children who need to surf the net for **school projects or Mathletics**. No other gaming or surfing is

permitted.

We request that parents drop us an email to "book" a spot in this extra-mural each week. Please notify us by Tuesday the day before if your child will be attending, so we can ensure we have a sufficient number of Chromebooks set out.

Please don't abuse the "internet café", as we really do want to help children who don't have internet access at home.

Senior primary sleepover...

Our annual senior primary (Grade 5-7) sleepover is rapidly approaching!

We have scheduled this exciting event for Tuesday evening the 15th of March.

This evening is optional, and we sell tickets to cover our expenses. Tickets cost R100 and include:

1. Pizza and cool drink for dinner
2. Muffins and apples for breakfast
3. Marshmallows for toasting over a bonfire
4. A pie for school lunch the next day (new addition from last year)



Our seniors will have a sleepy Wednesday (16th of March) at school, but do not have to attend school on Thursday, break-up day (17th of March). School attendance on 17 March until 10h00 is optional for Grade 5-7.

Pupils attending the sleepover have the choice of sleeping indoors or outdoors. Staff members on duty include: Mr Swiegers, Mrs Babcock, Miss Mamapa and Uncle Darrel. This event is usually a lot of fun for our pupils and we recommend that every child has the experience of "camping out under the stars around a bonfire" with their friends and teachers.

Tickets will be on sale from tomorrow until next week Friday (11 March). By next week Friday we need to finalise our numbers, and ticket sales will close. Don't be disappointed by being too late in buying your ticket!



Report card reminder...

A reminder that Solid Foundations follows a three-term reporting system. As such, our report card dates for Grade 1-7 are the 3rd of May, 1st of August and 1st of December.

Your child will not receive a report card at the end of this term, but will receive one a month into Term 2.

End of term at a glance...

With the busyness of school increasing towards the end of term, here are our dates and events at a glance for you to add onto your calendars:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Event</u>
3 & 4 March	6	Mapungubwe Museum Outing (Javett Centre)
4 March	1-3	Olifantsfontein Farmyard Outing
8 & 9 March	5	Moreleta Nature Reserve Hike
10 & 11 March	7	Melville Koppies Hike
11 March	RRR-R	Puppet Show
12 March	RRR-7	SPORTS DAY
14 March	1-3	On-Cue Theatre theatrical performance at school
15 March	5-7	School sleepover
16 March	3	Medieval Fayre
16 March	4-7	Literacy Celebration Day
16 March	1-7	Violin and cello demo assemblies (children show what they've mastered this term)
17 March	RRR-4	School break up day (optional school day for Grade 5-7) Civvies may be worn School closes at 10h00



A reminder that if you have not paid for your "Outings and Stationery" yet, your child will not be permitted to attend the abovementioned school shows and field trips.

Also note that our school loosely follows the DBE terms, and we will be following the DBE schools' break-up date of THURSDAY the 17th March, (not Friday the 18th as one would expect).

After Care is open throughout the holidays.

Home is best when you're at your worst...

Please do not send sick children to school. If your child is unwell, keep them at home until they feel better. We have had to phone quite a few parents to collect their children before 9h00 in the school day this week.



Sound of music...

Some Grade 1-7 parents have been asking why their children do violin/cello classes instead of PE or, if their child will ever play violin/cello at school. For those in the dark, here is a break-down of the violin/cello programme offered at Solid Foundations...

The SF violin/cello programme started about three years ago. Unfortunately, we have had many interruptions during its initial years due to COVID and school lockdowns.

Research indicates that playing a musical instrument has a positive physical impact on the child's brain development. In the light of this, together with the general ignorance that our children displayed when it came to classical music appreciation or knowledge, we launched the violin/cello programme. The school has hired a professional musician (the former conductor of the Limpopo Orchestra) who takes 4 or 5 kiddies at a time for a violin or cello lesson during their PE classes for a period of approximately 8 weeks per year (one term). Each child will get an opportunity to have these "free" lessons for 8 continuous weeks. Once their 8 weeks is concluded, they resume PE classes as per normal for the remainder of the year. Alternatively, if they are going to PE right now, they will get their chance to go to violin/cello in a later term this year.

Here are the results we hope to achieve:



1. Exposure to and love for a classical instrument.
2. Appreciation and love for classical music in general.
3. Talent-scouting for those with particular flair (Mr Baloyi encourages those with a particular interest to attend one-on-one private lessons with him and to pursue this field more seriously).
4. Ground-work for Grade 7, where our pupils participate in violin classes for free the entire year through, separate from PE lessons. (Our previous Grade 7s were able to play the school song by the year end).

At the end of 8 weeks, all the little violin students have an opportunity to pluck, play or squeak some of the skills they have mastered, in front of their peers in an assembly. They do this as a group effort, to alleviate performance butterflies. This is an extremely relaxed "concert" and the children are very supportive of each other as they all know, from first-hand experience, how difficult it is to master the sounds made by these instruments. Ultimately, it's a fun conclusion to 8 weeks of sweat.



Any parent who is particularly averse to their child having this experience, please let us know. No child will ever be forced to participate. However, keep in mind that without this exposure, most of our children will not have the opportunity in their lives to play a classical stringed instrument "for free" again.

"Music can change the world" - Beethoven



Grade RRR-2...

Don't forget to bring your book-bags back to school **tomorrow**. You can report any damaged books to:

<https://forms.gle/hwZxp6ZHpd41NWrd8>

Next week's theme for preschool is: Sports

Phone blues...

We apologise for all the missed phone-calls on Monday and Tuesday. We had a technical glitch which we were unaware of. Calls were not ringing on our side, even though callers had a ringing sound when making calls to us. Our service provider has corrected the problem.



Netball news...

Unfortunately, the netball match against Shangri-La has been postponed to next week. Teacher Kathy will tell her girls with the new date as soon as she has it.



Miracles abound...

Welcome to the world, little Langelihle Kgosi!

Olwethu (Grade 5) proudly became a big sister on the 22nd of February, with her brother coming in at 2.97kg and 53cm. May you be a life-long blessing to your family little Lange!

Prayerfully and playfully

The Teachers

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*When God wants
you to grow,
He makes
you uncomfortable.*