

Newsletter



2 January 2023

Welcome!

To all our new pupils and their parents, welcome to Solid Foundations. We are so glad to have you join our family, and are honoured to walk a road with you and your precious children. To all our families who were with us last year, welcome back! We trust you had a wonderful Christmas and are ready for an incredible 2023!

Just a reminder that you will receive a newsletter every Wednesday from us. Please let us know if you change your email address or telephone number at any time during the year. If you are experiencing email trouble and do not regularly receive mail, you can download a newsletter each week from our website at www.solidfoundationsprimary.com or from the D6 App (which will be ready in two weeks, after its annual roll-over maintenance).

Please note that our school emailing system is set up in such a way that each individual child will receive an emailed newsletter. If you have more than one child in our school, you will receive more than one of the same email each week. We will also email newsletters (but not statements) to all the email addresses that you have listed on your enrolment form. If you would like to remove an address, simply pop us a request via email.

School Terms for 2023

<u>TERM 1</u>	11 January - 24 March 20 March special DBE school holiday 21 March Human Rights Day
<u>TERM 2</u>	11 April - 30 June 27 April Freedom Day 28 April special DBE school holiday 1 May Workers Day 16 June Youth Day
<u>TERM 3</u>	17 July- 22 September 9 August Women's Day
<u>TERM 4</u>	9 October - 5 December



Although we generally follow the government's terms, we deviate slightly by starting a day earlier in term 2, 3 and 4. We add these days to our September holiday which is a 2-week holiday instead of the government's one week (nice to know for any "out of season" holiday plans you may have). After Care will remain open during all the school holidays and until the 15th of December 2023. After Care starts this year on Wednesday, the 4th of January 2023. Please use the gate on Korhaan Street for After Care in the holidays and let Uncle Darrel know (078-294-5101) if you are planning a drop off earlier than 7h30 in the holidays.

Settling the sums...

Please remember that you pay school fees AHEAD each month, before the 7th. This means that **school fees for January are due this coming week.**

Thank you to every family who pays promptly!

Please check that you have received a financial statement for January 2023 from us. If you did not, contact the school immediately (admin@solidfoundationsprimary.com). For privacy, our school bookkeeping programme only permits statements to be sent to **one** email address. Let us know if you wish to change the address that we have selected.



Unfortunately, if you do not pay within the first week of a month an automatic penalty is added to your account. **Always use your child's name and surname as your payment reference and NOT THE STATEMENT KDZ NUMBER please!**

You have the option of an eleven-month or a twelve-month payment scheme. You do NOT have to indicate which plan you've selected, as we will deduce your option automatically from your payments. POP can be sent to admin@solidfoundationsprimary.com, but this is not a compulsory requirement.

Families who pay for the year in one lump sum up-front do get the "Outings" fee waived as a discount.

School fees amounts are listed on our website (www.solidfoundationsprimary.com) under the fees tab. Our school banking details are as follows:

SF Primary

Nedbank cheque/current account

Glen Acres Branch (143342)

Account number: 121 063 6557

Use child's name and surname as a reference (Remember, **don't** use the KDZ number).

Keeping in touch...



We will "roll over" the D6 Connect App (**not** D6 Communicator - don't get confused between the two) in the next two weeks. Your child's new grade will be automatically uploaded.

If you are a new parent, please download the D6 App (free) from your App Store after the 11th of January. We use this app to communicate with you and it is rather helpful. Your cell number details will be uploaded in the next two weeks, and you will be "recognised" by the app. We will remind you to download the app in future newsletters.

School hours...

Please can all our pupils be at school by the latest 7h20 every morning. The bell rings at 7h30 sharp and late pupils are often very embarrassed and distressed. Let us make every effort to keep our pupils punctual and relaxed by being on time in 2023. The current exception to this rule is Thursday mornings, as our staff have their weekly staff meeting until 8h00.

Later drop off on Thursdays is not a requirement, and you are welcome to drop your child off each and every day at 7h20.



Collection times:

Grade RRR & RR	12h45
Grade R- 3	13h00
Grade 4 - 7	13h30 (some classes in senior primary grades end at 14h10. Please see your child's personal time-table which will be given out on the first day of school)



A reminder that pupils should be collected within a $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of their last class of the day. Children collected after 14h30 will be charged After Care fees for the afternoon.

Children collected after 14h30 must be SIGNED OUT on a clipboard kept by the After Care staff. In this way, we DO NOT CHARGE YOU if your child remains after hours for an extra-mural activity. To benefit from this, your child does have to be collected within a half an hour of the extra-mural's conclusion time.

We can accommodate any family who wishes to use the After Care facilities on very short notice (e.g. your boss asks you to stay for an unexpected afternoon meeting). Please let the school know via a telephone call or email if this should happen and you require this service. The cost per afternoon is R100 and full-time is R1000 pm.

An After Care newsletter will be sent out as an additional attachment with this newsletter. Please read it carefully if you would like your child to attend After Care this year.

Just a reminder that no full-time After Care resignations will be accepted after the **1st of November 2023**, and **all After Care pupils pay for December** (with a half-price discount for the month), even if they do not use the After Care services in December.

Which school gate to use...

Our school gates are open at the following times:

Moorivier Veld Gate/ Troll Bridge Gate (drop-and-go or park)	6h30 - 7h30	12h45 - 17h30
Maraboe Gate by teacher's parking lot (drop-and-go)	7h00 - 7h30	x
Korhaan Gate by cul-de-sac (drop-and-go)	7h00 - 7h30	x
Korhaan Gate by prefab classes	Only used by After Care during school holidays	

Our school has several entrances, which can make drop-off and collection a bit tricky to grasp for new families. If you would like to park and walk your child in, please park in the veld (Moorivier Drive) and use the gate by the "Troll Bridge" You cannot park and leave your vehicle near the Maraboe or Korhaan gates, as these areas are allocated for free-flowing traffic. You are, however, also welcome to park in a parking bay around the school and walk your child in through any gates.

The ONLY gate available for collection in the afternoon is the Moorivier Street gate ("Troll Bridge Gate"). By restricting collections to one gate, one responsible staff member checks each child as they leave, ensuring the security and safety of our pupils. And to keep our pupils safe, please let the office know if someone new or unexpected collects your child from school. Teacher Joanne will flag any "strangers" and we will not allow your child to leave in their company unless you have given your permission.

Please be courteous and respectful in obeying our car guards and gate staff. They have your child's safety in mind and are following strict policies regarding the control of traffic and child safety.



Shows and stationery/book fees...

This annual fee (listed per grade on our website under the "fees" tab) is due by the 1st of February 2023.

With regards to **stationery requirements for Grade 5-7**, to cut down on costs, we are quite happy with pre-loved Grade 4 stationery being used again in Grade 5 and beyond.

You can confirm that your Grade 5-7 child is ready for the new year by checking that they have the following:

- Blue pen (preferably Bic)
- HB pencil
- Eraser
- Sharpener
- Ruler
- Pair of scissors
- Pritt glue stick
- Coloured pencils
- Coloured pens (to assist with study notes)
- Calculator (does NOT have to be scientific)
- Homework diary (a notebook does suffice)
- Compass (to draw circles)



Apart from calculators, compasses and homework diaries, the school stocks all other stationery items and you are welcome to purchase them from the office when school opens. We also recommend that our Grade 5-7 pupils have an assortment of A4 book bags (plastic coloured sleeves work just as well) to keep their books for each subject separated and sorted in their suitcases. This isn't compulsory and isn't stocked in the office (you can get it at stationery suppliers like PNA), but it definitely helps to keep their little lives more organised.

School uniforms...

A full break-down of uniform requirements is available on our school website (see "Policies"... "School Uniform Policy"). A reminder that the coloured and maroon golf shirts are out for 2023 and we have fully transitioned to grey golf shirts and KDA (basketball length) shorts for our casual uniform this year. We also **no longer accept grey or maroon school pants, or maroon tracksuit tops in preschool** at all - only black KDA shorts, maroon jerseys

or the school black tracksuits please. We have also asked our uniform suppliers to make thick black bomber jackets for winter, to be worn with the tracksuits. This is optional and you are very welcome to still use the thinner maroon bomber jackets.

MS Uniforms

92 Monument Street
011-050-7842
076-711-1443
info@msuniforms.co.za



Boundary Silk Bazaar

Corner Pomona Road & Sarel St
Caryldale
Kempton Park
011-975-2119



Grade RRR - 5 Parent's Meeting...

We are having our first Parent's Meeting at school on Saturday morning the 21st of January.

Please could **only ONE parent per family attend the meeting.** Pupils may not attend. The meeting will begin punctually at 8h00.

First day of school...

For our brand new families, if you are still unsure of where to go with your little one on the first day of school, please feel free to ask one of our senior pupils (they will be carrying a sign that says "I'm here to help" ☺). We will post class-lists on the hall doors if you'd like to confirm your child's class allocation again. If your child needs reassurance, feel free to watch them for a few minutes playing outdoors on the playground. As soon as your child is relaxed, give them a confident hug and kiss and depart. All preschool teachers will be on the playground greeting their children. Mrs Coetzee and Mrs Greyvenstein (Grade 1 teachers) will be near the school gate by the hall. All other teachers will be in their classrooms. The school bell will ring at 7h30 and all parents must say their "good-byes" by then. Don't worry new parents - we promise to sooth away any little tears with lots of love and reassurance.



School policies...

Our school policies are working documents and get updated at least once annually to reflect the true operation of the school. If you have not done so already, take the time to view our policies (on the website) to get a more comprehensive understanding of the "ins and outs" of our school. Parental input is considered annually with our parental survey held in July/August each year.



I still have a question...

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to email at any time or call the school during the school terms. We're really here to help.



Enjoy the gift of 2023

We rely on your prayers throughout the year. We need the guidance of our Heavenly Father to be excellent teachers and to serve the little ones who are dear to His heart. Please pray for us!

All the best for 2023

The Solid Foundations Staff

admin@solidfoundationsprimary.com

011-976-5300

