

Newsletter

16 August 2023

We believe that children are our future...

One of the most disheartening challenges that South African families face is the need for quality education at affordable prices. Unfortunately, the "PRODUCT" of education that is being offered by various schools is NOT of the same quality from school to school, and parents are dismally unaware of this fact when PRICING from school to school.

Sadly, what we are finding happening more and more, is that older pupils trying to get into our school are unable to do so because they fail our entrance tests. These entrance tests are at the same academic level that your children are currently writing, and what we regard as "normal" for the grade. Clearly the "normal" standard we expect from our pupils at Solid Foundations is not "normal" when compared to many other schools.

This education gap is growing every year, and is becoming very evident already in Grade R. We have had numerous meetings as management, and our only viable solution to help children is to try and ensure that they start EARLIER with us. However, many parents do not take Grade RRR and RR education "seriously", as unqualified creche and day-care education is easy to access and relatively cheap. Our biggest application intake only comes for Grade R/1.

This is too late!

More than ever, this year we have found that only one in seven (1:7) outside applicants currently pass our Grade R entrance test and get placement at our school. (Again, this is the same test that we make our own current Grade R pupils pass before going to Grade 1, and the vast majority of our pupils pass without issue). **We need to give children quality education earlier and longer so they can cope at higher grades!**

For this reason, in order to attract younger clientele, we are adjusting our school business model to help the public to compare "PRODUCTS and PRICES" from their perspective.

Grade RRR and RR will therefore not pay After Care fees in 2024, should these children choose to remain full day. We will also not be increasing our school fees for these grades next year.

This will equate our prices and hours to those of the creches in our area, without compromising on quality.

Please spread the word...

- Schools are NOT the same.
- Quality education from age 3-6 is more important than at any other age of a child's scholastic journey.
- Solid Foundations will be accommodating full day applicants at Grade RRR and RR level (at no extra cost) to try and encourage younger enrolments as of 2024.

We really believe that if we attract families of little ones as early as 3 or 4 years of age, the sky is the limit! But we must start YOUNG!



School fees for 2024...

We are thrilled to announce an almost negligent increase in our school fees for 2024. Solid Foundations is not funded in any way by the government, and we are proud of the fact that we remain one of the cheapest private schools in the East Rand - while offering one of the highest standards of education.

Grade RRR	R2400 pm (same as 2023)
Grade RR	R2600 pm (same as 2023)
Grade R	R3250 pm (increase of R100)
Grade 1-3	R3650 pm (increase of R100)
Grade 4-7	R4000 pm (increase of R100)
After Care	R1000 pm (same price as 2022)



Our annual "Stationery and Shows" budget will only be announced in Term 4 - as we await pricing from external sources for this budget.



Sign the books please...

In compliance with our updated school policies, we will be sending Grade 1-7 workbooks home this week for you to look at. Please sign that you have done so, and give the teachers comments if you have compliments or concerns about your child's work.

Solids has got talent!

Our annual "Talent Show" week is around the corner, and Grade 1-7 pupils can prepare an item TO AUDITION in their music lesson next week. Teacher Kathryn, our music teacher, will select the items to be presented in the shows on 28 August (Grade 1-3) and 31 August (Grade 4-7).

Our pre-schoolers do not need to audition their little items, but drop us a note or email if your pre-schooler wants to perform, and assist them in putting something small together. Please understand that the level we expect is that of "swinging a hula-hoop" or "whistling a tune", so don't be intimidated!

The preschool Talent Show will be on the 1st of September.

Pupils participating in their Talent Show may wear their performance outfits (civvies) all day as a reward.

Encore!



Last charity drive for Term 3...

Every year the retirement home in Allen Grove asks us to assist them in collecting items for their annual fair. The fair contributes a big portion of their annual budget, and these beautiful elderly people cook and bake up a storm to raise funds for their home.

We will be starting a collection of any of the following items:

Canned fruit
 Condensed Milk
 Rice
 Canned mixed veggies
 Oil
 Flour
 Brown Sugar

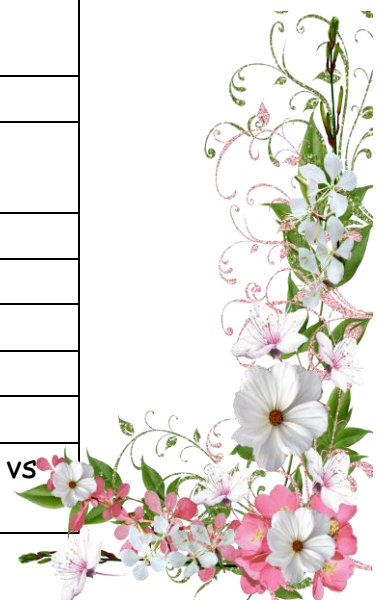


The collection will conclude on the 8th of September, and all pupils who have brought one or more items from this list may wear civvies on Friday the 8th.

Looking ahead...

Here's a quick summary of a few weeks ahead and the fun events our children are in for:

Date	Grade	Event
18 August	RRR-R	Environmental Show
21 August	1-3	Science Show
24 August	4-7	Science Show
25 August	RRR-R	Science Show
25 August	RRR-R	Cake sale hosted by GrRRRE
28 August	1-3	Talent Show
31 August	4-7	Talent Show
1 September	RRR-R	Talent Show and Spring Hats (decorate a hat for Spring Day)
8 September	RRR-R	Bus trip to the farm
5 and 6 September	4	Willem Prinsloo Museum
14 September	1-7	Maths Bee
18 September	1-3	Spelling Bee
20 September	5-7	Hike at Hennops
21 September	4-7	Science Fair
22 September	4-7	Spelling Bee
22 September	RRR-7	Break up day and teachers vs pupils netball match



Uniform check...

A reminder that as we go into summer, our school shorts are the KDA basketball shorts and not rugby shorts. They should be just above the knee in length. We also appeal to you to check through your child's wardrobe to make sure that they haven't accidentally taken home another child's clothing over winter. Label everything and check your child's labels!



Grade R feedback...

Grade R parents...please feel free to give us feedback about our emailing our work schedule to you weekly. Is it beneficial or enjoyable for you as parents?

Cultural pick-me-up...

UPSO (the University of Pretoria's Symphony Orchestra) has opened their orchestra for one week for a myriad of musicians to join them and to perform in a massive collaborative orchestral concert that is sure to be enjoyable and powerful, next week Friday afternoon. Some of our pupils and staff attended this event last year and it was truly awe-inspiring.

If you are interested in impacting your child's life with a spectacular and free orchestral show (including music from Game of Thrones and Star Wars), you are invited to the university's Aula Auditorium at 16h00 on Friday the 25th. They do encourage donations of toiletries at the door for charity.

If you are attending, please email us and we will provide you with the UP gate pass for entry.



Pizzas and bookbags...

Don't forget to order your pizzas from the office tomorrow. Bookbags (Grade RRR-2) will go out on Friday, so remember to return your bags tomorrow. Report any badly damaged books on:

<https://forms.gle/hwZxp6ZHpd41NWd8>

Prayerfully and playfully
The Teachers

admin@solidfoundationsprimary.com

011-976-5300

A reminder that we appreciate your rating on Google and any other social media platform



Classifieds...

A reminder that we charge R50 per advert for classifieds advertising. Our school does not necessarily endorse the companies advertising, but we do vet the adverts to ensure that they are compliant with the Christian values espoused by our school.

Extra English classes...

I would like to take this opportunity of sharing my knowledge by introducing Reducation to anyone that may want to improve in the following:

I have Education in English which is a very widely used language especially in South Africa and internationally in both schools and work environment as well as some institutions around the world. In order to improve not only in communication but also academically meaning students will also be able to improve in the following math, science and also technology. I found most students are not able to engage in math they act as they are unable to grasp the mathematics. They end up not being able to understand the mathematics which is not good for employment in the future. They need to make right choices in their careers we also help with school homework as most parents are unable to do since they are at work.

Yours faithfully

L.Malahlela (Reduction Instructor)

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