



Newsletter

2 January 2026

Happy New Year from all of us at Solid Foundations. We're so ready to share God's amazing gift of 2026 with you and your family!

Once school starts, newsletters go out every Wednesday via email, on our website and on the D6 App (which will be updated after school starts). It's really important that you read them, so you know what is happening in your child's school life!

Also, let us know if you change your personal details like telephone numbers and email addresses during the year.

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 emailed newsletter each week. Unless you state otherwise, all the email addresses that you have listed on your personal information form will receive a newsletter, but, please note that we can only send a financial statement to ONE email address.

School Terms for 2026

<u>Term</u>	<u>School Opens</u>	<u>School Closes</u>	<u>Special school holidays and public holidays affecting school days</u>
First	14 January	27 March	21 March: Human Rights Day
Second	13 April	26 June	27 April: Freedom Day 1 May: Workers Day 15 June: School holiday 16 June: Youth Day
Third	20 July	23 September	10 Aug: Woman's Day observed 24 Sep: Heritage Day
Fourth	12 October	4 December	

Please keep in mind that we are digressing a little from the DBE/government dates for 2026.

After Care starts this coming week the 5th of January and will close on December the 15th. Please use the gate on Maraboe Street (by teacher's parking) for holiday drop offs. If you are planning for your child to join After Care permanently, please feel free to start on Monday.

Nice to meet you

Hello!



Parents Meetings...

We will be having our 2026 Parents Meetings on Saturday morning the 17th of January (the first Saturday after school begins). Your time is precious, so **we will start punctually** and finish quickly. Give yourself at least 10 minutes to get from your car to your venue.

Note the following times and venues for the different grades:

Grade RRR - 4: 8h00

- Preschool will meet outdoors on the netball court - weather permitting. Wear sunhats or bring raincoats 😊.
- Grade 1-3 in homeroom classes.
- Grade 4 in the hall.

If preschool parents have heard the welcome/introductory speech given by Teacher Kathy in previous years (i.e. the speech covering reading programme, vocab programme, play-based education,

cake sales etc.), you are welcome to skip the talk and only come in at 8h45 for a meet-and-greet with your child's new teacher.

Grade 5-7: 9h00 in the hall (compulsory for Grade 5, but optional for Grade 6&7)

Due to space constraints, please could only one parent attend (per class). If you are unable to attend, you are welcome to send another family member or friend to represent you. Please also note that the meeting is for grownups, not for little people, who will have to stay at home for this one unfortunately.

Our extra-mural coaches and companies will also be present to give you information and answer any questions you have.



Checklist for 2026...

Grade RRR through to Grade 4 pupils get their stationery, textbooks and workbooks given to them at the start of the school year. Parents can purchase satchels or backpacks (Grade RRR-R) and sturdy suitcases (Grade 1 upwards). Please ensure that your child has got basic stationery at home, as the school stationery mostly remains at school.

For our new families... we do not feed your child (this excludes After Care in the afternoon). Please pack a sandwich, fruit and water for first break.

Grade 1 and 3 pupils, please keep your blue plastic book bag (the one you took home daily) and your chair bags from 2025, as you will re-use them in 2026.

For our Grade 5-7 pupils, we do not supply stationery packs but only workbooks and textbooks. Please make sure your child has got the following basic stationery for the first day of 2026:

- pencil bag
- blue pen
- HB pencil
- sharpener
- eraser
- 30cm long ruler
- coloured pencils
- scissors
- Pritt glue
- coloured pens / fine liners (felt tip pens) for studying
- highlighters (used in class too)
- homework diary (any type - but light weight is recommended)
- non-scientific calculator
- maths set
- coloured plastic A4 envelopes / coloured bookbags to keep different subject books together in your suitcase (recommended but not compulsory)
- a small fold-up umbrella kept in your suitcase for rainy days at school



What suitcase must I buy (Grade 1-7)?...

The answer is always "a sturdy one". Please look for a bag that is reinforced and that keeps your books protected and stops them from curling. We also recommend that you buy a separate little lunch bag like the one in this picture ->, and don't pack your lunch in your school bag. It helps to keep your books safe, your lunch cool and your food easy to find at break.



School accounts...

Our school really strives to offer the cheapest private education at the highest academic standard possible. Please remember that you pay school fees AHEAD each month, by the 7th. This means that **school fees for January (INCLUDING 2026 outings, shows, stationery and books fees) are due this week.**

Thank you to every family who pays promptly!

Please check that you have received a financial statement (including January's fees) during December. 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 your statement is currently being sent to.

Unfortunately, pupils may only attend school on the 14th of January if their January fees and the OUTINGS/SHOWS/ STATIONERY AND BOOKS FEES are paid IN FULL. Solid Foundations does not permit the accumulation or carrying-over of any debt. With regret, we will not be making any exceptions to this rule or any "payment arrangements".

Your account must be completely "in the green" to start the school year, or we cannot honour the contract you have entered into with us for 2026.

Always use your child's name and surname as your payment reference. You do not need to use the statement KDZ number.

If you would like to pay with cash, we do accept cash in the office and we would prefer an office cash payment rather than you depositing cash at an ATM into our account. This avoids you being charged cash deposit fees.

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 - we will determine your choice through your payment. POP can be sent to admin@solidfoundationsprimary.com, but this is not a necessary requirement.

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

School fees amounts are listed on your statement and 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 or universal Nedbank code 198 765

Account number: 121 063 6557

Please use child's name and surname as a reference.

LAST reminder: "Shows, outings and stationery/book fees" and January fees- reflected on your statement - are due before your child starts in two weeks time.





School hours...

Punctuality is a sign of respect and kindness towards others. Please can all our pupils be at school by latest 7h20 every morning. The bell rings at 7h30 sharp and children are embarrassed if they are late. The current exception to this rule is Thursday mornings (from 22 January onwards), as our staff have their weekly staff meeting between 7h30 and 8h00 on Thursday mornings.

Late drop off on Thursday mornings is by no means expected or compulsory, and you are welcome to drop your child off each day, Monday to Friday, 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 automatically be charged After Care fees (except Grade RRR and RR pupils).

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 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of the extra-mural's conclusion time.

After Care...

We can accommodate any family who wishes to use our 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 before 12h30 via a telephone call or email if this should happen and you require this service. This includes Grade RRR and RR pupils. The cost per afternoon is R100 and full-time is R1000 pm (excluding Grade RRR and RR - it is free for these grades). If you do **not** let us know, your child will be kept in a separate waiting area until 14h30 before joining the After Care programme, which is a long time for a little one to worry and wait.

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 **31st of October 2026**, and **all Grade R-7 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.

Preschool pupils who attend permanent After Care must please bring a sheet and/or blankie to school daily, for afternoon nap time. Label the sheet with your child's name please.



School gates...



You are welcome to use the gates on Korhaan Street or on Mooirivier Drive for drop off. If you would like to park and walk your child in, please park at the entrance on Mooirivier Drive (the gate by the "Troll Bridge"). You cannot park and leave your vehicle near the Korhaan gate, as this area is 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 the Mooirivier or Korhaan Street gates.

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

We do require your written consent of you would like your older child to walk or cycle home alone each day.

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.

School uniforms...

A full break-down of uniform requirements is available on our school website

(www.solidfoundationsprimary.com see "Policies">" School Uniform Policy"). A reminder about certain problems we usually pick up at the start of a year:

1. Please do not buy black rugby shorts! Our black school shorts are LONG KDA basketball length shorts - almost knee length. They are longer than the black shorts you buy at PEP, Ackermans, Woolies or other commercial clothing stores.
2. Please do not wear white shirts that button up to the chin without wearing a bow-tie, tie or button ribbon. You might want to rather go for open-necked school shirts. This avoids the tie problem altogether.
3. White summer shirts must have school logos on pockets.
4. Girls wear grey culottes and not grey skirts.
5. Our pre-schoolers may not wear any grey shorts or pants.
6. Vests may not be visible (e.g. don't wear a long-sleeved white vest under a short-sleeved school shirt).
7. No coloured braids, beads or extensions please, and pay careful attention to hair-cut regulations!!
8. We frown at holes in school pants. If you wouldn't wear it to work, your child shouldn't wear it to school. Please have these mended or buy new pants.
9. Bomber jackets are still optional black or maroon colour.
10. Grade 7s may wear grey school jerseys.



Uniforms are available from:

MS Uniforms

92 Monument Street
066-427-0969

OR

Boundary Silk Bazaar

Corner Pomona Road & Sarel St
011-975-2119



First day of school...

For our brand-new families, on the first day, we will have senior pupils at the school gate helping our little ones find their new classes or teachers. If your child needs reassurance, feel free to watch them for a few minutes playing outdoors on the playground (weather permitting). As soon as your child is relaxed, give them a confident hug-and-kiss and depart. Weather-permitting, all preschool teachers will be on the playground greeting their children. The 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 our children will line up outside the hall for prayer. Parents are welcome to remain for this short prayer-time, but are expected to depart thereafter. We fully understand that this time of parting can be stressful for our little ones, and we promise to be gentle and supportive. If you are still concerned about your child's separation anxiety, we recommend that you give your child a photo of yourself to keep in their pocket, suitcase or even put up in their class. A small labelled stuffed toy from home can also help (but please no other toys).

School policies...

If you are curious about the way we operate as a school, feel free to read through our school policies on our website. Parental input into policy drafting is considered annually with our parental survey held in July/August.



Grade RRR classrooms...

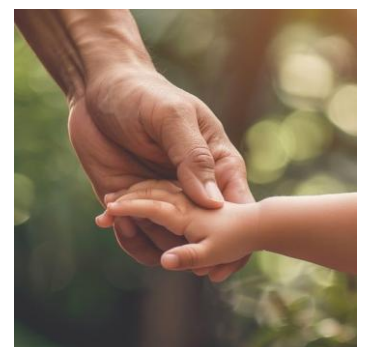
Due to the large number of Grade RRR enrolments for 2026, we are in the process of building beautiful, bigger classrooms for our little ones. This affects both Grade RRR classes. With regret, until the building project is complete (we hope within a month of school starting), our little ones will be temporarily housed in our old prefab classes on the senior side of the school. Apologies for this.

Transport help...

If you are looking for a way to get your child to-and-from school, we have a list of transport companies on our website (www.solidfoundationsprimary.com). See "about our school" > "List of transport companies". Please do your due diligence in checking that the companies listed have PDP licences and their vehicles are roadworthy.

2026

*The older I get, time cannot hide
The bigger your shoes, the longer your stride
The lower your voice, the smaller my say
The shorter our moments together each day
Lord, help me to treasure
Each minute, each year
Before I know it...
My grown-up child will be here!*



Please commit to praying for Solid Foundations and our staff in 2026. That will be your biggest gift to us, and greatest way of supporting us, throughout the year.

We really can't wait to see our bright-eyed children on the 14th!

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to email at any time or call the school from the 5th of January onwards. We're really here to help.



Have a blessed 2026
The Solid Foundations Staff
admin@solidfoundationsprimary.com
011-976-5300

Our school office is open as of Monday the 5th of January from 7h30 until 13h30 daily.

Classifieds...

If you would like to place an advert in our newsletter, please email a JPEG version to the office on or before any Monday morning. The cost is R50 for an ¼ A4 size.

Scholar Transport



We offer reliable scholar transport to & from the following areas in Kempton Park to Benoni Schools:

BIRCHLEIGH, BIRCHLEIGH NORTH, NORKEM PARK, BIRCH ACRES, VAN RIEBEECK AND GLEN MARAIS

Contact:

Thina: 081 813 8585/ 082 789 8108

More than 5 years of reliable service in the industry