



# Parkdene Primary School

PERSERVERANCE AND PROSPERITY

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Headmaster  
**G.J.D. JORDAAN**

23 MCGAGHEY STREET | P.O. BOX 52  
PARKDENE | BOKSBURG  
BOKSBURG, 1459 | 1460

18 January 2022

Dear Parents

## Newsletter number: 1

### Welcome back

Finally, we are back in full operation and with the enthusiasm and motivation to meet challenges. May 2022 be blessed and safe and be the best ever.

We would like to give a warm Parkdene welcome to Mr. Nel, Mr. Smith, Ms Meyer and Ms Fourie. May your time with us be happy and productive. **Please note newsletters will only be available on the D6 Communicator and emailed to the parents.** Only special letters will be given to learners.

### Covid-19

Our country has been blessed with fewer numbers of infections and deaths. Covid, however, is still a reality. We cannot let down our guard or relax our vigilance.

To all those who lost loved ones, we offer our deepest condolences during this difficult time.

At school learners will be sanitised at the gates, then go to the classes where they will be sanitised again and their temperatures taken. Temperatures will be taken again after second break. Social distancing must be practised as far as possible. We kindly request that you still check your child every morning asking and checking against the 5 questions:

No	Question	Yes	No
1	Do you have a cough?		
2	Do you have a fever?		
3	Do you have a shortness of breath?		
4	Do you have a sore throat?		
5	Have your taste or smell been affected		

If your child is sick, please do not send them to school until you have treated or had their complaints investigated. Please also send the school an email / doctors' note.

### Academics

We are back at school full time, all learners here every day. This may be a challenge for some learners but we will quickly get back into the routine.

Please ensure your child is at school every day, partakes in lessons, does homework, projects and the like. This term is a Cycle test term. More information will be given closer to the time.

### **Stationery**

Thank you to all those parents who have either ordered stationery through Dean's or bought the stationery privately. We are still in a process of handing out the packs from Dean's as the payments are processed on their side. Please be patient. We also then appeal to parents who have not ordered or bought yet to do so asap.

### **Thus far**

Our first day was successful and learners were in classes and started working in English and Mathematics.

A very special welcome to our Grade 1's. You are very welcome here. We are happy that you chose us. May you enjoy your time with us and wish you happy times and good luck.

On Thursday we had our field events where learners participated and competed. This is the first time in almost 2 years we could do this. Our teachers and learners enjoyed this and a good sunny day proved very effective.

The Leaders' Council Induction was held on Thursday evening. Thank you to all those involved. We wish all our Leaders' Council members good luck. Remember, our learners will look up to you and you need to be committed to your duties.

The Leaders' Council Conference was held on Saturday. Thank you to Mr Jordaan, Mr Venter, Mrs Van Huyssteen and Mrs M Venter for being there for our leaders and giving up your Saturday. Your commitment is valued.

### **Gr 1 Parents Workshop**

This was held on Saturday 15 January as well. It was well attended and productive. The Information booklet was given. Any parent who did not attend can request it via the Home Room teacher.

### **Homework Diary (Gr 1 – 7)**

All learners need to pay R35 for the diary. All learners must have a school homework diary. Parents need to read the information and sign in the front of the diary. Please fill in the correct contact information. This is vital, should we need to get hold of you in an emergency. The numbers must be correct, in use and must correlate with the numbers on our system. It is worrying that a few Intermediate and Senior Phase learners do not know or claim not to know the contact numbers. Learners should know at least one number off by heart (Foundation Phase as well).

### **Textbooks**

Textbook retrieval last year was excellent. Textbooks are being handed out. Please check the textbooks and sign the loan form. If necessary comment on the textbook. Remember this is your proof if there are queries at the end of the year. Please send the loan form back to the Home Room teacher.

### **School Hours**

School gates open at 07:15. Our normal school closing times are 14:05 Monday to Thursday and 13:35 on a Friday. Due to Covid-19 all learners will leave via the Eagles gate on McGaghey Street (Grade 3 – 7).

Grade 1 and 2 will come out at 13:30 and exit in Monk Street. The gate will be closed at 14:00 and learners must then exit at the Eagles gate in McGaghey Street.

### **Parents Meet and Greet**

Parents will have the opportunity to meet their children's teacher. It is vital for parents to go to the Home Room teacher to get the term Assessment plan. Please keep this in a safe place and ensure your child is at school for these assessments.

Monday 24 January Grade 2 and 3

Tuesday 25 January Grades 4 and 5

Wednesday 26 January Grades 6 and 7

This will be from 17:00 – 19:00.

### **Office Hours**

Please note that the front office hours are from 08:00 to 14:00.

### **School Fees**

Note that the first school fees payment was due on 01 January 2022 and the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month thereafter up to and including 01 November 2022. For those wanting to take advantage of the 10% discount available, all funds must be cleared into our account by 28 February 2022 and your current account balance must be R0. (Does not apply to Grade R). Please do not pay school fees in arrears as they are payable in advance. Our banking details are as follows:

FNB GAUTENG EAST

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 51141354872

CODE: 252142

REFERENCE: account number / child's full name and surname as we have it.

Please note that Parkdene Primary is a fee paying school and on signing admission you have acknowledged this.

### **School Uniforms**

The Learner's Code of Conduct will be fully implemented from the first day of school: hair, uniform, school bags etc.

### **Late coming / Leaving Early**

This week we have had numerous learners arriving late. Please note that school starts at 07:40 sharp. If learners arrive late it often makes them anxious and it disrupts lessons. Learners will get demerit points and this is stressful for them as most times it is not their fault that they are late. Please ensure your child is on time.

This also applies for the afternoons afterschool and after extra murals. Please ensure you or the transport fetches the learners on time.

Also, a lot of learners request to leave school early. This is disruptive and only the Headmaster can approve the request prior to previous arrangements being made.

### **Exemptions**

Exemptions will open to those who qualify as from 01 February 2022. You can apply for exemption by emailing [exemption@parkdenepriamry.co.za](mailto:exemption@parkdenepriamry.co.za) to request a form. All forms must be returned by the end of February. After this, any exemption applied for after this date, will be subject to a pro-rata exemption based on the date the forms are returned.

Note the following:

- All required documents must be returned along with the fully completed exemption form to the same email address. Your exemption will not be processed without all requested documents.
- When scanning and returning the exemption form, please send it back in 1 (one) PDF document and not as individual pages. You will be asked to re-submit.
- All individuals listed on the account should submit on exemption form, as all persons listed on the account are equally liable for school fees.
- If you applied for exemption in previous years, you will need to re-apply again.
- All responses will be provided via email within 30 days of receipt of your application.

Deputy Principals: J.H. Venter and Mrs J.G. Jacobs

H.O.D.: W.L. Phillips, Mrs R. van Zyl, Mrs N. Venter, Mrs M.C.M. Smith, Mrs M Venter

## **Karri Cashless Payment System**

You are able to use the Karri system to pay for the diaries and any additional collections added. We do not use the Karri system for school fees. The payment comes directly to the school and teachers receive a list of who has made payments. It is a much safer and reliable system of making payments. You can download the App from your Google Playstore / App Store. Currently the app is closed due to a data problem. You will be notified when it opens again.

## **Duty**

Teachers are on duty from 07:15 in the mornings. Learners may not enter the premises, put their cases down and then leave the premises to buy from the vendors. This is treated as misconduct i.e. bunking. Once in the school gates, learners have to remain on the premises. If they remain outside the premises the school cannot assure responsibility and liability.

## **Cultural**

### **Public Speaking**

The Inter-House Public Speaking will take place in the school hall on 14 and 15 March.

Gr R – topics: Dream, Barefoot, Feel, Spiders

Speech length: 1 – 2 minutes

Teacher: Mrs Botha

Gr 1 – topics: Letters, Footprints, Feast, Feel, Wonder

Speech length: 2 – 3 minutes

Teacher: Ms Ragubeer

Other grades: Refer to the last newsletter.

Teacher: Gr 2 Mrs Barrett

Teacher: Gr 3 Mrs Chambers

Teacher: Gr 4 Mr Mlambo and Mr Herselman

Teacher: Gr 5 Ms Erasmus

Teacher: Gr 6 Mrs Welff

Teacher: Gr 7 Mrs Ballotto-Bouwer

We would like as many learners as possible to take part.

## **Sport**

### **Athletics**

Well done to the learners chosen for the Athletics team. You have got the talent. Now commit to attending the practises, represent your school with pride and do your best. We are looking forward to a short but good season.

Juniors (u7 – u9) will practise at school from Monday to Thursdays from 14:15 till 15:00.

Collect your child from the Eagles gate at 15:00.

Please ensure your child is picked up on time.

Return the consent form asap.

Seniors (u10 – u13) will practise at Black Street starting at 14:15.

Learners will come back to school.

Please collect your child from the Eagles gate at 16:00.

Please ensure your child is picked up on time.

## **General**

### **School Bags**

The School bags and Sports and Cultural bags are available from Peephole (Market Street) and School and Leisure (K90 Centre) no other school bags will be allowed. No bags with writing or Tippex on are acceptable. Only the Sports and Cultural bags can be used for sport, lunch boxes etc.

### **Mr Palmer: Counselling Psychologist**

We are blessed to have the part-time services of Mr Palmer, a counselling psychologist. If you feel your child is in need of these services, please make an appointment with the child's Home Room teacher to discuss it. We ask that all parents kindly complete the consent form that will be given to the learners and send it back to the school. This allows for the school to contact you if we feel that your child needs to see Mr Palmer. Please note this is a no financial obligation service. Also, if your child is seeing Mr Palmer, this will not be every week. We have a number of learners seeing him and it is not possible to schedule all of them every week.

### **Deliveries to the front office**

We do not accept deliveries of clothing / food / keys / project items / messages / money / stationery at the front office. Every time an item is brought to the office, a class needs to be stopped and disrupted to call the child out in order to collect the items. This happens many times a day. Please make all arrangements with your children before they come to school in the morning. Whatever has been forgotten will have to remain at home. Items to be delivered will NOT be accepted. We will still take delivery of party packs and cupcakes upon request.

### **Carnival King and Queen**

This will take place on Friday 11 February in the school hall at 18:00. Entry forms are available from Mrs N Venter for Seniors and Mrs Smith for Juniors.

### **Con Spirito**

Entry closing dates are as follows:

- Reading 18 February
- Public Speaking 14 March

Participation dates are:

Reading: Juniors 7 April and Seniors 8 April

Public Speaking: Juniors 25 April and Seniors 26 April

This year we will also be having a Marimba band. Learners can see Mrs Welff to get involved.

### **Is It Bullying?**

When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful and they do it once, it is RUDE.

When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they do it once, that is MEAN.

When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful and they keep doing it – even when you tell them to stop or show them that you're upset – that is BULLYING.

### **Valentine's Day**

This is a special day

- Gr 7's will be having a Valentine's Entrepreneur sale on Friday 11 February. Please bring some money to support our learners and spoil the ones you love.
- Valentine's King and Queen will be held in the evening. Tickets will be available soon to come watch.
- Money can be sent to the Home Room teacher or made payment via Karri system, once the Karri system opens.

### **Absenteeism**

Remember if learners are absent, they need to bring a letter. Also, it is their responsibility to catch-up any work missed. It will only be given to them once they return.

## Photographs

We will be taking individual photos this term. Closer to the time a letter will be sent in which you grant permission for your child's photograph to be taken.

## Important Dates

Monday 24 January: Gr 2 and 3 Meet & Greet at 17:00	Tuesday 25 January: Gr 4 and 5 Meet & Greet at 17:00
Wednesday 26 January: Gr 6 and 7 Meet & Greet at 17:00	Friday 28 January: Athletics meeting at Black Street
Friday 4 February: Inter English Athletics	Wednesday 9 February: Inter Primary Athletics
Friday 11 February: Valentine's Sale, Valentine's King & Queen	Monday 14 February: Valentine's Day
Tuesday 15 February: BPSAA Athletics	Monday 28 February: Cycle Test Start

## Communication

We still do not allow visitors at our school due to Covid-19 and the preferred method is to send an email to [admin@parkdenepriamary.co.za](mailto:admin@parkdenepriamary.co.za). We also have an SMS number that can be used 083 399 7716. Take note this is only for SMSes and this phone will not be answered.

## Final Word

We are looking forward to an enjoyable, productive year. We will continue to follow all protocols. We will continue to thrive and improve. God Bless.

Kind regards



**G.J.D. JORDAAN**  
**HEADMASTER**





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**G.J.D. JORDAAN**

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18 January 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

## COUNSELLING

Mr Craig Palmer is the part-time counselling psychologist at Parkdene Primary School. He is not an educational psychologist and does not deal with academics.

As your child is our number one priority at Parkdene Primary, we want to make sure that he/she is happy and comfortable, as well as cognitively/emotionally prepared and motivated.

Mr Palmer will be at the school every Tuesday morning from 08:00 to 11:00. Children will be referred predominantly by the teachers but if you feel your child is in need of counselling you can discuss it with the class teacher, Mrs Jacobs or Mr Jordaan.

There is no financial obligation for this service on your part (free). Kindly complete the attached reply slip which gives us consent to refer your child to Mr Palmer if needed. If you do not give your consent it will be expected of you to take your child to a private psychologist immediately if required. We will obviously contact you before the time to confirm with you.

Please kindly complete and return the below reply slip.

Kind regards

**J.G. JACOBS (MRS)**  
**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

**J.H. VENTER**  
**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

**G.J.D. JORDAAN**  
**HEADMASTER**

## REPLY SLIP

I \_\_\_\_\_ the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_

in grade \_\_\_\_\_ hereby give consent / do not give consent (please circle) for my child to attend counselling sessions with Mr Palmer at Parkdene Primary School if it is deemed necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date