



RHODES
High School

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persevere

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Dear Parents

The extension of the lockdown has brought along with it even further uncertainty for us all. The Covid-19 pandemic has given us all a huge shock, and we really cannot have foreseen these strange times we are facing.

There has been a lot in the media about the uncertainty of the school year. At this point, I can only ask you to await official directives from the school, indicating when school will reopen and how this will take place. I ask you all to bear with us as we all navigate these difficult waters together.

I would like to thank the many staff who have been hard at work putting together whatsapp groups and emailing out work to learners. Your dedication, even in the unknown, is greatly appreciated. To this end, I would like to place strong emphasis that learners cannot be pretending that this time is an extended holiday. Unfortunately, learners in High School, particularly in Matric, does not have the luxury of time. When school eventually does reopen, many school days would have been lost. No matter how much extra time and lessons we add, the days lost cannot be caught up. As we know, the Matric year for teaching comes down to around 100 days in its entirety. This is not many! We cannot afford to be wasting any precious time. We ask you to check the school website Covid-19 page regularly, and look at what teachers have been sending out. I do not want to stress one subject at the expense of another, but I do want to urge learners to particularly look at Mathematics and English. We know that these are subjects where learners have great difficulty, and we want to ensure that learners achieve the best they can at the end of this academic year. So, learners will have to be working hard at these subjects in particular throughout these lockdown days.

We are also aware that data and connectivity are a serious challenge. We ask that you make the best effort you possibly can to help your child. We know that you already are doing so, and we thank you for that! We are not sure how much longer we will have to endure this, but we ask that you continue to make the effort for your child's future. To this end, I want to say a huge thank you to the parents who have upheld their commitment to paying school fees for April. We ask you to please continue to do so into May. The School, like any home, has continued financial commitments to meet, and we are only able to do this if our families continue to honour their commitment to the school. Thank you!

I want to assure you that, in these trying times, I am praying for you all. We want to extend our best wishes to our Muslim staff, friends, learners and extended Rhodes High family who will - in a new way - be commemorating the month of Ramadaan from Friday this week. May it be a blessed time for you all. To our Christian families who have just celebrated Easter - also in a new way - we pray that the time has been blessed, and that the joy of the Risen Lord will be your strength through all these uncertain days.

I look forward to seeing you all as a school again soon.

Yours sincerely,

K W Long, Principal

Our Vision is to embrace and manage change, to uphold high standards and to educate for life within a safe and caring environment, which challenges learners to realize their full potential.