

NEWSLETTER

03 NOVEMBER 2023



Ridgeway College



Dear Parents

Exam Time!



Exam Time is here...

The end of the week sees a shift – our academic staff have completed the formal ‘teaching’ component of the year, now the focus lies squarely on the child.

The examination papers are designed to give your child the opportunity to demonstrate the skills they have developed and how much knowledge they have assimilated. Throughout the examination run our teachers are available for additional support for any child requesting this.

Please could I ask that the child make the arrangements with the teacher a day in advance to ensure that the teacher is available at the requested day and time. There is no greater reward for a subject teacher than when a child performs well in an examination. We want our children to perform as well as they can, but they need to put in the work themselves as well.

The final examination is weighted heavily in the compilation of the Year-Mark – in Grades 8 & 9 this exam is 60% of the Year-Mark and in Grades 10 & 11 it is 75% of the Year-Mark. As such, there can be great improvement in a child’s results with adequate preparation for the final exams.

The examination timetable ends on Wednesday 29 November. The last week of the term is a normal school week.

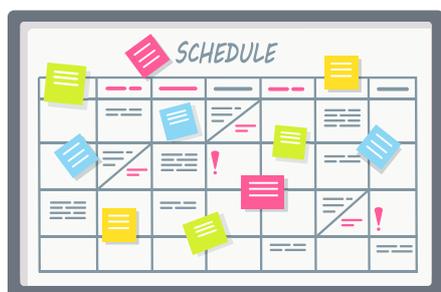
Year-End reports will be issued on Friday 8 December.

#Believe

So, as a parent, how can you help your child develop the study skills they need to achieve academic success?

1. Create a designated study space for your child.

Does your child have their own desk or workspace in an area of your home that is conducive to focused studying? Ask yourself if it's well-lit and away from other distractions. Keep helpful study supplies on hand in this area, like colourful post-its, a variety of pens and pencils, highlighters, and scratch paper. Encourage your child to take ownership over the area by giving them freedom to decorate and teach them to neaten up and organize their desk each night so they're ready to get to work when it comes time for the next study session.



2. Keep a planner.

Time management is an incredibly important aspect of effective study skills. Have them create a study timetable that includes regular short breaks between study sessions. This can offset cramming and procrastination by making their workload feel more manageable.

3. Take effective notes.

There are studies that demonstrate that writing notes out by hand results in better retention than not taking any notes or using a laptop. Teaching your child to use active reading strategies—like taking notes or highlighting key themes and passages—is also helpful for retention.

NOTES

4. Practice for examinations.

Simply reviewing content before an exam isn't necessarily the best method to ensure your child is prepared for an upcoming examination. Instead, encourage them to try more interactive approaches, like completing practice exams or using flash cards. Asking your child review questions and having them provide short essay-style explanations aloud can also be a great strategy to make sure they understand the material.

Practice
makes
PROGRESS





5. Avoid cramming.

Studying a little bit of a subject every day is much better for long-term retention than studying for a longer period on a single day. Help your child structure a study schedule that will allow them to space out their practice on different subjects.



6. Teach your child to ask for help.

Perhaps your child is struggling with understanding a specific lesson in a particular subject or doesn't quite understand a concept. When this is the case (and it happens to everyone at some point or another) asking for help is key. Teach your child how to bring up challenges early with a teacher and ask for help—and don't be afraid to bring up concerns with their teacher yourself either. Teaching your child how to build effective working relationships with other students and asking their peers for help is another important lesson in asking for, receiving, and offering support.

7. Avoid distraction.

Teach your child how to put their cellphone away as it will serve as a form of distraction while they're studying. Multi-tasking also takes away from learning, so encourage your child to focus on a single subject for a sustained period before moving onto another subject. And above all, ensure that your child has healthy sleeping and eating habits to maximize their focus and make the most of time spent studying.



You are doing
GREAT!

I encourage our children to make good use of the remaining time, set up a study schedule, try to stick to it, revise, and practice to ensure they produce their best results. ***We wish all our children success in their year-end examinations.***

Study Leave

A reminder that our children may use Monday and Tuesday at home to prepare for their examination papers starting on Wednesday. Children who prefer to study at school are welcome to attend in school uniform and will be supervised in study venues.



To our pupils – use the last few days productively,



School Bags

Please be reminded that orders for branded school bags need to be submitted by Friday 3 November. Our ladies at reception are happy to assist with the placing of your order.



Upcoming Dates

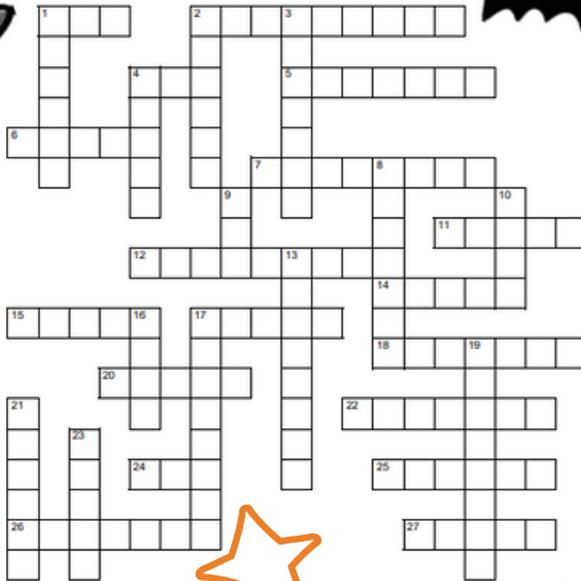
- Monday 6 Nov & Tuesday 7 Nov – Grade 8-11 Study Leave.
- Wednesday 8 November – Year-End Examinations begin.
- Wednesday 29 November – Exams End.
- Thursday 30 November – Normal Classes continue (Day 4).
- Monday 4 December – Orators Evening (Gr 8-11).
- Tuesday 5 December – Awards Evening (Gr 8-11).
- Wednesday 6 December – Pupils Last School Day.
- Friday 8 December – Report Collection (Shandukani Hall).
- Tuesday 12 December – Administrative Staff final day.

“PERFECT PRACTICE,
MAKES PERFECT.”





Halloween



Across

1. He swallowed the canary.
2. Playground for ghosts.
4. What a spider spins.
5. Frankenstein has one.
6. When ghosts come out to play.
7. Scare.
11. What the pot might call the kettle.
12. October 31st.
14. ____ or treat.
15. Witch transportation.
17. Frightening.
18. The Count.
20. A skeleton is just a bunch of these.
22. Disguise.
24. Lives in the belfry.
25. Incey wincey is one of these.
26. Main ingredient in a popular pie.
27. ____ stories.

Down

1. Where a vampire sleeps.
2. Evil or mischievous creature.
3. He hates garlic.
4. Samantha for example.
8. ____ house.

9. Whooo? Whooo?
10. Mr. O'Lantern.
13. Comes out on full moon nights.
16. Might be full, half, or new.
17. A boney sort of fellow.
19. Fire burn, and ____ bubble.
21. When something makes our skin crawl, it's this.
23. Found in Egypt.



Halloween Festivities

Our focus this week was academics, as such our children requested to shift their Halloween activities to Friday to limit any disruptions to their academic program. Many of our children got behind the event today and adorned their most ghoulish attire for the day.



Solution to 27 Nov word search

C	H	C	A	N	I	E	R	S	U	B	O	C	N
H	L	M	S	E	N	U	H	N	V	O	F	D	L
E	T	A	E	L	S	W	T	A	I	O	R	R	Z
S	T	N	S	U	B	I	E	T	N	X	A	A	S
L	S	I	T	E	J	L	B	K	C	N	N	L	I
I	U	E	E	M	E	L	E	R	E	C	S	L	Y
N	N	L	P	R	S	I	Z	E	N	H	M	O	A
K	A	I	H	E	S	E	T	L	T	E	A	P	K
O	M	B	D	V	E	L	E	K	K	K	L	E	O
L	Y	B	U	E	K	E	N	E	O	B	H	R	L
B	N	O	T	N	R	R	E	D	C	E	E	D	I
E	S	K	O	A	I	O	B	F	H	C	R	N	S
E	G	L	I	U	E	U	E	A	E	E	B	A	I
E	R	S	T	D	L	X	Y	F	B	A	E	H	S

KIND REGARDS

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