

## **Dear Parents**

So April has come and gone. There is a crispness to the morning air that signals the coming winter, with shifting autumnal colours painting the landscape. I have just visited our ECD and watched tiny hands carefully inserting cotton wool and seeds into old egg trays. They will nurture their seedling trays and learn about the process of germination and the life cycle of a plant whilst also fostering an awareness of recycling. Cycles and seasons are so much a part of our school routines too and we are close to exam season. No, the College learners are not as excited this season about it as the little people in the ECD are about their season of planting, but ideas also germinate and minds will grow in this exam process too. I encourage parents to please work with us in monitoring the work that is being done at home. I distributed the test and exam timetable at the start of the term to assist with this process. Some of our learners are not feeling any sense of urgency or motivation and their marks will reveal this attitude. At home, they need a space to work, they need enough sleep and they need less time on social media. Like the little seeds, our pupils need nurturing at this time too.

## FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

Exam time
Sport season
Writing competition
Blood drive
School Uniform







It is also a full sports season again at last and it was wonderful to see our girls on the netball courts again yesterday whilst the boys played soccer. The physical activity is vital as a means of stress release as well as the lessons that any team sport teaches.







More good news regarding the writing competition being run by our local newspaper! Nyandano Ramushweu has won for the second time. This means that of the three chapters entered so far, Ridgeway has won all of them (Tinotendo Kujinga winning the first). This is a fantastic achievement for these learners and a credit to our English staff too. In the words of the judges, he brought a "magical twist" to the story and is a "very gifted writer". We eagerly await the next installment as there are only four chapters to go.

Please visit our Facebook page to listen to an interview with our Heads of School. They spoke from the heart and are excellent ambassadors for our school. https://www.facebook.com/RidgewayCollege/videos/400429131374015/

We are hosting a Blood Drive at school next week and encourage parents to also participate. One unit of blood can save three lives and there is always a shortage.







Please be aware that from June 1, the expectation is that all pupils (apart from the matrics) need to be in the new uniform. We have been flagging this date for over a year to give parents time to buy stock. Please note the following:

- ·The khaki trousers need to be the school colour and not a darker shade
- •The tracksuit top is only to be worn with tracksuit pants or sports shorts and not with the trousers or skirts
- ·The stocking is black, not blue, and may not be worn with socks
- ·Ties are to be worn every day

Finally, thank you to the parents who met with me this week to share marketing ideas and to the Grade 7 parents who met with me online to discuss applications for next year.

I appreciate the time each of you took to communicate with me.



Junior Bessong wearing the right colour khaki trouser



YOURS IN EDUCATION

Dionne Redfern

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FIND NYANDANO'S
WINNING ENTRY
ON PAGE 7 IN THE
ZOUTPANSBERGER

