

RIDGEWAY COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents

On 25 May 1963, the Prime Minister of Ghana at the time, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah and comprised representatives from Egypt, Ethiopia, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Cameroon and Ghana. The Union of South Africa was not invited because of Apartheid. The purpose of the day was to celebrate and acknowledge the successes of what is now known as the African Union in the fight against colonialism and apartheid, as well as the progress that the continent has made while reflecting upon the common challenges the counties face.

Today, this day is celebrated all over the world and marks a time to some to reflect on how far we have come as a continent and as a country and how very far we still have to go. A few years ago, I was teaching a novel by a brilliant Nigerian author, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. The novel was set partly in Nigeria and partly in the USA. I gave my class a blank map of Africa and one of the USA. I asked them to fill in as many American states as they could and as many countries as they could for Africa. The results spoke volumes. Those who could not place the American states could certainly name many of them. Some could label the countries on our border but beyond that... very little. What does that tell us about the syllabus, the skewed perspectives, the books they read and the movies they watch? Are we teaching our children to love Africa?

What I do know is that I will never leave. My husband and I have both chosen to be part of the solution. Neither of us can imagine living away from our country on a foreign continent but the same may not hold true for our children or yours. They may opt to be global citizen, leaving our shores for other far-flung countries but I hope their roots will always be here.

YOURS IN EDUCATION

Dionne Redfern

EXECUTIVE HEAD
head@ridgewaycollege.co.za



28 May 2021

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Africa

"...AND AFRICA SMILED
A LITTLE
WHEN YOU LEFT.
"YOU CANNOT LEAVE
AFRICA," AFRICA SAID
"IT IS ALWAYS WITH YOU,
THERE INSIDE YOUR HEAD.
OUR RIVERS RUN
IN CURRENTS
IN THE SWIRL

OF YOUR THUMBPRINTS
OUR DRUMBEATS
COUNTING OUT YOUR PULSE,
OUR COASTLINE,
THE SILHOUETTE OF
YOUR SOUL."

SO AFRICA SMILED
A LITTLE
WHEN YOU LEFT.
"WE ARE IN YOU",
AFRICA SAID.
"YOU HAVE NOT LEFT US,
YET."

-BRIDGET DORE



UNIFORM REMINDER

All pupils (bar grade 12) are expected to be in the new uniform by 1 June



Art class

IN THE AUTUMN SUNSHINE



Science Expo Images

EXAMINATIONS

Exams begin next week. The times and dates will be emailed to all parents. Pupils need to be at school at least 20 min before an exam begins. If a pupil wishes to come early and study at school before an exam, they are welcome to do so. The grade 8 exams will not finish after 3.30 so as not to impact on transport. We have space in boarding if anyone wishes to board over this period. Please contact Mrs Waller if this is an option (admin@ridgewaycollege.co.za). Please don't allow your child to attend parties over this exam period. The risk of COVID infection is escalating every day and they need to be kept as safe as possible.

PEARSON INSTITUTE TALK

Our senior LO teacher, Mrs Variawa, organised for a representative from the Pearson Institute to address our pupils on Wednesday not only on what courses they offer but to also give some career options, especially for those who take Mathematical Literacy.



TRITECH VIRTUAL CHALLENGE - an online Science Expo

Twenty-seven Grade 8's, ten grade 9's, fourteen grade 10's, twenty-four grade 11's and ten grade 12's have entered this global challenge. This Science competition encourages learners to become scientists in the hope that they might address not only the skills shortages on our country but also pressing issues facing our world. The competition consisted of 3 rounds. The first round tested the Scientific Method. The second was riddles and number patterns, and the final round was a fun, practical activity involving bubbles!! The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves- with the day ending in many bubble blowing competitions.

With 3 of the 4 preliminary rounds being won by Ridgeway students-we look forward to finding out who won the practical component and progress onto the next stage of the competition. Well done to Ms. Wilmans, Mr. Nhundu and Mr. Mdhluli for all their efforts.



COMMUNITY PROJECT

Our next community project, which we will focus on until the end of term, is in support of a small school that offers shelter to orphans, children with AIDS and those who are vulnerable and at risk for other reasons. We are asking for decent second-hand clothing for these children or tins of food.

BELIEVE

In Yourself