

RIDGEWAY COLLEGE



NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents

I have thought for many years now that there is a growing divide between the principles and values we hope to teach at school and the crumbling morals of the world outside our gates. In our foyer, we proudly display our values, which include these key words:

TRUSTWORTHYNESS, RESPECT, TOLERANCE, CONSIDERATION, RESPONSIBILITY, ACCOUNTABILITY and FAIRNESS.

I wonder about these words and the meaning they truly hold. Yet as a place of learning responsible for the shaping of young minds, we have to hold fast to these values and instill them to the best of our ability. With our parent body, we share the responsibility to hold the moral compass for the children in our care and teach them right from wrong... because they are still children and if we fail to do so, we invite disaster. This is not new to us. In 400 BC, the Greek philosopher Socrates wrote:

“The children now love luxury; they have bad manners, contempt for authority; they show disrespect for elders and love chatter in place of exercise. Children are now tyrants, not the servants of their households.” A similar sentiment is echoed in “The Crucible” (set in 1692 and written in 1953) by Arthur Miller, when he writes: ‘...but now the little crazy children are jangling the keys of the kingdom’.

This week, we heard the news of a group of young people from our town who have been charged and jailed for theft. More shocking still was the tragic news of the suicide of a young grade 10 girl from a nearby school, allegedly following a bullying incident at her school. Where does the blame lie? Who is responsible? What would Socrates make of the youth of today?

I don't know all the answers but I do know that at our school, we will not let go of what we know to be right. We will stand fast by those values and use them each day to guide those who teach and those who learn here.

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

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New Entrance

VALUES

We are all born as empty vessels which can be shaped by moral values...

YOURS IN EDUCATION

Dionne Redfern

EXECUTIVE HEAD
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THE FLYING OF OUR NEW SCHOOL FLAG FOR THE FIRST TIME

16 April 2021

Open Day and Entrance Exams

We are holding an Open Day at 8am this Saturday for prospective 2022 pupils and parents. After a morning of fun with the various departments, the entrance exams will begin at 10.30. Please feel free to share this information with anyone who may be interested

Emma Sadlier Social Media Online Course

Thank you to the parents who have sent the R20 for their children to do this course. The staff have completed it and are shocked by what they learnt. In the light of the recent video of a bullying incident at a school in JHB and another from our local community, I sincerely hope that parents see the merit in this course. The sooner we are able to train our pupils, the better.

School Uniform

A reminder that by 1 June, all pupils (apart from Grade 12) are expected to be in the new uniform. We have everything in stock at school.

Test and Exam Timetable

Attached to this letter is the test and exam timetable for the term, for your interest. Pupils have also received copies to allow for early planning and preparation.

Saturday School

We will be continuing with scheduled Saturday Schools this term for the matrics. The impact of COVID is still being felt in terms of time missed and our staff need the time to best prepare our learners. I hope the parents support this and reconise that the teachers are going the extra mile.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Thank you to the parents who attended the Grade 8 and 9 evenings this week. Nothing replaces a face to face conversation and I appreciate the effort you made to get here.

A reminder:

Monday 19th **Grade 10 17h00-18h00**
Tuesday 20th **Grade 11 17h00-18h00**
Wednesday 21st **Grade 12 17h00-18h00**

New Entrance

I am delighted to share with you the proposed new entrance for our school, which will look fantastic.



OPEN DAY AND ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

Saturday 17 April 2021

Limited space available due to COVID restriction.
Apply early to ensure a place (admin@ridgewaycollege.co.za)

PROGRAMME:

7:30 - 8:00	Arrival and Registration
8:00 - 8:30	Parent Address in Shandukani Hall Pupils to attend Subject Workshops till 10 am
	Tea break
10:00 - 10:30	English Entrance Exam
12:00 - 12:30	Lunch break
12:30 - 13:30	Maths Entrance Exam
13:45 - 14:45	Afrikaans Entrance Exam Open Day ends at 3pm

R150 application fee for non-Ridgeway Prep pupils

**At Ridgeway College,
we are better together**

**Scholarships available for top scholar
(70% of fees)**

Limited bursaries available (by application)



BELIEVE

In Yourself