RIDGEWAY PREPARATORY NEWSFLASH Issue 45 23 April 2021

Dear Parents,

I want to start by saying thank you to all our parents who managed to attend the parent/teacher conferences on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

For so many students and parents alike, this period could be stressful or filled with pride. However, the focus should not be just on the marks, as this does not define who or what your child/children are. The focus with a report should be on where your child has improved (and they must be praised for these improvements) or in areas where help is needed. As a whole, the school and parents should work together to assist the students. Making your child's educational career a pleasant and fruitful journey is a joint venture and all of us play an important role.

I would like to share with you 8 finer points of making your child/children feel special and loved.

The 8 "L's" of Parenting

LOVE your child. For your child to be successful, he or she must feel valued. Your gentle touches, smiles and hugs communicate love. Giving your undivided attention, especially at the end of each day, demonstrates caring. **LOOK** for the good in your child and make specific comments on what he or she does well. You must believe in your child's worth before he or she can believe it. If you want your child to have self-confidence and motivation, watch for positive behaviours and comment on them.

LISTEN, without judgment, to your child express his or her thoughts and feelings. If you do not listen, your child may attempt to gain your attention by misbehaving.

LAUGH with your child, not at him or her. Demonstrate a sense of humour as you cope with life's difficulties. Laugh and play together.

LABOUR diligently and with pride so that your child will want to work hard, persevere and do his or her best. LEARN new information. It is fine to say, I don't know, but then add that you both can find out together. Take the time to read and thus instil a love of learning. On car trips play word games, read or listen to audio books. LEAVE the television and other media off. Many programmes and video games desensitize your child towards violence and contribute to fearfulness and aggression. Place computers in central locations to monitor internet use. LIVE life to its fullest. Take pleasure in little things like an ice cream cone, a beautiful day or the enthusiasm of your child. Read, pretend, dance, sing, take walks, play games, have pleasant meals, look at photos, share dreams, and enjoy each other.

Remember: Your child will most likely adopt the attitudes and habits you demonstrate daily.

A very special "shout out" must go to Leach Printers for sponsoring our logo on our school hall, as well as the direction board on the corner of Leeu and Tshirululuni Streets. The quality of the final product speaks volumes and has enhanced the exterior look of our beautiful school.

Our senior girls' netball team are looking very "zhoosh" with their new netball kit, proudly sponsored by PIB through their Mami group of companies, namely Mr and Mrs Magwabeni. We are extremely grateful for your sponsorship and we have no doubt that this uniform will contribute to our girls' overall performance, not just on the field, but also in the community when we compete against other schools. **THANK YOU!**

This week we also celebrated International Book Week and our students were exposed to a number of reading and book related activities. Thank you to Mrs Tayob and her team for organizing these events. Listening to the feedback from students, they have no doubt had a lot of fun. Check out our FB page for the daily feedback and photos.

Last, but not least, a reminder that next week **Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th** we will be celebrating "Freedom Day", therefore school will be closed for these two days. School will resume as normal on **Wednesday**, **28 April**.

Wishing you all an awesome long weekend.

Until next time, stay safe! Jannie Le Roux

