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Unicorn News



From the Headmaster's Desk

It amazes me as to how resilient children are. As adults we are throwing our arms up in despair and gnashing our teeth at our current situation, while all along our children "just get on with it". It is almost like they are pre-programmed to accept the inevitable. It was wonderful to see how bubbly they were on Monday when they returned to school. I am also pleased to see that their manners are top class too. On Monday, and each day since I have been outside at arrival time, each and every single child who walks past me says good morning. How wonderful is that!

I have had many parents commenting on the morning flow and how much better it is. So, thank you to all of you for helping us to make the drop-off so much better. We find on mornings where parents arrive just 10 minutes earlier, that the later congestion overall is easier. So, if you would like

to get here and ease in and out, why not try and drop off between 06:55 and 07:10.

Condolences

Our sincere condolences go out to the Kruger family who lost their dad last week to Covid19. Conrad has been a long-standing member of our Unicorn community for many, many years. His absence will be sorely felt. Our prayers and thoughts are with the Kruger family at this time.

POPIA

The POPIA protection act has been gazetted to be implemented in all South African businesses by 1 July 2021. As such we are working on making sure that we are completely POPIA compliant by then and in the next few months, you will receive information from us regarding this.

In the meantime, parents have asked us for other parents' mobile numbers for various WhatsApp communication groups. We are not permitted to release these numbers without permission from the parents first. We are working on a way to help parents set up these WhatsApp groups in the meantime.

If you are added to a WhatsApp group without your permission, you have every right to remove yourself from that group, either immediately or later.

Applications

Our applications for 2022 (and beyond) are now open. In helping to move towards a paperless society, all our applications are now completed online. [Please click on this link if you would like to](#)

[apply for 2022 and beyond](#). Even if you already have another child in the school, no spaces are guaranteed, and all siblings must also apply.

For any further information, please contact Mrs Jenny Hayes, our admission secretary, on admin@unicornschooll.co.za or 015 307 2840.

School Fees

School fees for 2021 is R4860 per month per child, and a discount of R330 will be given if payments are made by the 3rd of every month. Please make sure to pay any additional invoices such as uniform by the end of the month of which the purchase was made or you will forfeit the R330 discount should there be any additional invoices outstanding. Kindly take note that monthly school fees are invoiced on the first of every month. You will receive an invoice as well as a statement regardless of annual payments and payments made in advance.

For your attention: The annual book fee of R480 is due by the end of February 2021.

Extramurals

We plan on starting our extramural programme on Monday, 15 February. The explanation letters and choice forms will also be sent out today.

Uniform Shop

In spite of our best endeavours to have enough stock of all items in the uniform shop, the following size socks have been sold out: size 9-12, size 13-3 and size 4-7. An order was placed at the beginning of this year; however, the delivery of the socks will take between 6 and 8 weeks. A notice will be placed in the newsletter when the new stock arrives at the beginning of March.

Cultural Chit Chat

Singing Extravaganza

This year is a year where the Cultural side of Unicorn can be in the spotlight and shine like never before! Can we ever have enough singing? Therefore, we will host the very first "Singing Extravaganza" on 3 March 2021. All Grade 4 to 7 singers may enter to showcase their talent. Keep a look out for more information.

Group Orators Competition

We call on all Grade 4 to 7 pupils to get ready for the very first Group Orators Competition at Unicorn Preparatory school. Group speaking is about the interaction between speakers, talking in front of an audience, and ultimately, having fun. It will also teach every child that "a good orator makes the audience see with their ears." The best groups will be chosen during Afrikaans and English lessons to participate in this prestigious event. More information will follow in the upcoming newsletters.

Veritas Speech Competition

Please note that the Veritas Speech Competition 2021 has been moved to 16-17 March 2021. The closing date for entries is 10 March 2021. The competition will take place at Pietersburg High School. For further information please contact Mrs Alida du Preez on alida@unicornschooll.co.za

Radikale Redenaar

This year Unicorn Preparatory School would like to participate in the "Radikale Redenaar" competition. Children can enter in different categories:

- Individual speeches from grade R to grade 7 (Afrikaans, English, or Bilingual)
- Team speaking (2 to 4 speakers)

- Experimental Individual (English & Afrikaans). This section is not as strict and formal as the other sections. Speakers are encouraged to write their speeches with influence from their own experiences and their own opinions. Here, teams may also participate (team members of 2-4)
- Creative writing: Learners who love to write poems and short stories can enter this category of the competition. This section, however, is not a competition.
- Reading: Categories: Afrikaans Prosa, Afrikaans Poësie, English Prose, English Poetry.

Closing date for entries: 19 July 2021

Closing date for videos: 6 August 2021

Please contact Mrs. Du Preez for further information: alida@unicornschooll.co.za



Congratulations to **Isabella Brett** who achieved 80% in both Unisa Grade 1 Theory exam and Unisa Grade 2 Piano exam. Congratulations Isabella!



A great big thank you goes out to Teya Zanetic for the awesome toys donated to us and to the Stewart girls for the 2 beautiful puzzles. We really appreciate your kindness!



Valentine's Day



Unicorn will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Friday 12 February 2021. All pupils may come to school dressed in their civvies (red, white, or pink). As it is for fundraising purposes, we ask that pupils bring along with them R10 to be collected by their class teachers.

Prestige Photo Day

A kind reminder that Prestige will be coming to Unicorn Preparatory School for our annual photo day on Friday 5 February. Please ensure that children arrive dressed in their formal uniform and that they are smartly groomed.

