



GREYTON HOUSE NEWSLETTER

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Memo 2017/1

Friday 20th January, 2017

Dear Parents and Friends of Greyton House

The staff and I very much look forward to meeting up at the social this evening. As mentioned in my letter earlier this week, a general Parent/Teacher Meeting will be held in each classroom from 5 p.m. and thereafter the Social will begin at approximately 5:30. Bring your own chairs, drinks, and side dishes according to your own preferences. We are delighted with the positive response from those wishing to attend.

Welcome : We warmly welcome these new pupils to the school

Alex Asia (Nursery Class) and his grandparents Caroline and Errol April

Morgan Barnard (Nursery Class) and her parents Dannie Barnard and Elaine de Villiers

Camilla Quayle (Nursery Class) (sister to Julia) and her parents Karen and Neil

Adam Smith (Nursery Class) (brother to Ben) and his parents Chantelle and Werner

Shayden Duminy (Grade R) and his mum Simoney

Tim Young (Grade 3) and Jeremy Young (Grade 5) and their parents Jenny and Adam

Annual General Meeting: Please take note that this will be held on Monday 6th March and it is hoped that as many parents as possible will attend. Please make a note in your diary. Further details will be forthcoming.

Information for the Term:

Weekly Start/Finish

School **starts promptly** at 8 a.m. (except for the Nursery class who can come in a little later if they wish) and classes **finish** as follows:

Nursery Class will finish at 12:00 each day Monday to Friday

Grade R and One will finish at 13h00 Mondays to Thursdays (except when they have sport, when they will finish at 14h00)

Grade 2 will finish at 14h00 Monday to Thursday

Grades 3-7 will finish at 14h00 Monday to Thursday (except when they have compulsory sport on a Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon) when they will finish at 15h30

NB: Grades R-7 will **finish at 13h00 on a Friday**

(Please can I make a particular plea to parents about punctuality in the mornings – a child arriving even 10/15 minutes late severely disrupts the entire class at the start of the morning and of course he/she misses out on a vital part of a lesson)

Weekly Assemblies: Assemblies will now be held on Mondays at 8 a.m. Parents are most welcome to stay for these (should they wish to do so.)

Drama classes with Mr Jaques van Jaarsveld will continue on Thursday mornings.

Art classes with Mrs Dina Kuijers will now be on Tuesdays, and

Enrichment Clubs for the Grades 4-7 will now take place on Wednesdays. Thank you to Rupert Fage (Cooking), Monique Fagan (Craft) and Marshal Rinquest (Environmental Club) for heading these up.

Parents' Committee: Parents should please consider joining the Parents' Committee or be kind enough to offer any of their time or expertise towards our very necessary fund-raising activities. A committee meeting was held on Thursday afternoon this week and the members have great plans for fundraising for the months ahead. Special thanks are due to the Committee for all they do for the school.

Homework Policy: Age appropriate homework will be given to pupils as consolidation and practice of work covered in class. Parents are asked to encourage their children to sit down and work through what has been given or, in the case of the younger classes, help with reading and words. Should there be a lack of understanding, teachers will be only too willing to help or go over the subject matter again the following day.

Manners: Our personal belief is that a happy child is one who has boundaries set in place, and who has respect, pride and regard for themselves, the school, the staff and his/her friends. I am encouraging and making it the responsibility of every child to pick up litter when they see it lying around (in and immediately outside of the school;) The school uniform should be worn with pride, neatly turned out and shoes nicely polished. Hairstyles should be neat; girls' long hair tied back or secured. Boys' hair should not hang over ears or collar. Both girls and boys should not have hair that hangs over their eyes or that needs to be continuously brushed back out of the way. Any 'fad' hairstyles are unacceptable, such as Mohican, razor stripes, etc. The theme word for the term is: SELF-DISCIPLINE.

Children should bring their sports uniforms on a Tuesday and Wednesday in a kit bag and change at 12 o'clock, and not to wear them to school, as happened previously.

Discipline: Hopefully there will be no need for detention because of bad behaviour or because of homework not being done. However, if homework is consistently not completed, age appropriate detention will be given. Children will be taught that bad behaviour results in appropriate consequences.

Cellphones/Laptops/Tablets: Should a child bring a cellphone to school, this should be handed in to the Office for safekeeping and used only at home time. Unless specifically required by your child's class teacher, laptops/tablets will not be needed. Children will have ready access to the school computers for their research, when required.

Music: Sean, from Genadendal, will come and teach marimbas to the senior children on Monday between 9 and 10. Mrs Daniels will take school singing on a Friday. It is the intention to expand the musical side of the school in the near future.

Extra Mural Timetable: Apologies for not having this ready at the start of term, but we haven't quite finished finalising the details. Even at this stage a few question marks remain. Parents will be kept informed of developments. We would welcome offers of help with coaching from parents with skills to impart.

Future Functions:

Annual General Meeting: Monday 6th March, 2017

Fete: The Fete formerly mooted for the 4th March has been cancelled. It is felt that something like this takes an inordinate amount of effort with a disproportionately small return.

Xhosa classes: In a previous communication Xhosa classes were mooted, but this is not part of the curriculum at the present time, so we wait to hear from the WCED as to the way forward.

Grades 4-7 Outing to Wortelgat Camp 20/21 February.

Athletics Meeting: February 16th February at de Villiers Graaff School, Villiersdorp

Civvies Day (1st Term) will be on Tuesday 14th February – St Valentine’s Day. Children may wear a suitable costume for the day and bring R5 for a chosen charity.

Friday’s Tuckshop/Cake Raffles: Parents will be asked (as before) to contribute a cake for the weekly cake raffle – we will go through the parents’ list alphabetically – Sally will give you at least a fortnight’s notice. As far as the tuckshop is concerned, all classes will take a turn at running this.

Appeal from the Nursery Class for any balls and coloured blocks – should you be spring cleaning and have anything to spare.....

Please feel free to make an appointment via the office to see me should you wish to do so; although I am not at the school for the entire school day I shall be more than happy to discuss any matter with you.

I trust that this term will be a positive, enriching term for all students and, of course, parents.

Yours sincerely

Erith Harris
School Manager

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
16 January	17 January	18 January	19 January	20 January	21 January
School Office Opens	08h00 1st Term starts for pupils. Extra Mural Activities start			17h00 Parent/Teacher Meetings 17h30 Meet & Greet Social at Greyton House Cake Raffle Eva Afrika	
23 January	24 January	25 January	26 January	27 January	28 January
				Cake Raffle	

				Nico Conradie	
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Governing Body: Dr Tim Quinlan (Chairperson), Gemma Downing, Jeremy Sabine. Hugh Hopkins.

Parents' Committee: Nadine Matthysen, (Chairperson) Belinda Mutti, , Francois Haasbroek, Chantelle Whiley, Morne Conradie