



Newsletter 20/2021

9 November 2021

Dear Parents

Staff

- We are so privileged to have been given several Presidential interns. So far, we have employed 6 support staff to work with us until the end of March. We might still be able to employ 3 more so if you know of a person under 35, who lives close to the school, is unemployed and not studying and who would like to intern for R3800 per month, please ask them to contact Jill at school. We currently have Jenna working in admin and with the online school, Brad in maintenance, Tisha in aftercare, Clint in sport, Fadzai in cleaning and Charity in learning support.
- Thank you to the parents who continue to support the staff practically every day. The assistance we receive in swimming, reading, maths and in the traffic, really helps us provide excellent support for your children. Last week a letter was sent with a link to a Google document to ask if other families would like to assist this year and next: if you didn't get the letter, see page 5 of this newsletter as well as the flyers on page 7 & 8 and join the PNPS support team!

Forthcoming events

- Stationery orders should be placed **online directly with Masons**. Orders will be available for collection from the school field on **Wednesday, 1 December** between **13h15 and 17h30**. If your child is in grade 1 next year, payment should already have been made, and these children do not need to collect as they will receive theirs in January. If you do not collect your box on this day, you will need to make arrangements with Mason to collect from their offices.
- **The Grade 7 farewell** function will be held on **Monday, 13 December**.
- Civvies day will be held as usual on **Tuesday, 14 December**. An amount of R10 is levied for this privilege. Grade 3s will have theirs on **Monday, 13 December**.
- The school yearbook will be sent home on **Monday, 13 December**. The cost of R100 for this will reflect on your fee statement. Families with outstanding school fees will have to pay for the yearbook separately after meeting with a committee of the SGB. A reminder that the fees office has a debit/credit card payment facility, should you wish to pay your account at the school. Should you have any queries, please contact Crystal in the Finance Office.

Final Assessments

Final assessments start this week and continue next week. Apologies if the staff have confused you with a change of dates – we received information one week which changed the next week, so we need to present our completed schedules by 30 November! Please reinforce study times and studious behaviour with your family. A dedicated calm space for learning is an additional bonus!

Fees 2021

- A final reminder that all school fees are due this month. Please contact Crystal Dougall should you need to make any other arrangements for payment. Outstanding fees are due on Tuesday, 7 December.
- The debit orders that will run on 15 and 25 November, and 1 December, will be increased automatically to include the yearbook, paper and diary amounts.



Solidarity Fund

Please remember to consider the needs of several of our families who continue to be affected by Covid. For the first time ever, there are families who are behind in their school fees at this time of the year, and this causes great stress. Any small donation would really be appreciated.

My School Fundraising

Thanks to all the families who continue to provide the school with extra funding through using their My School Cards – the latest amount received was R1 864.32. If any member of the family requires extra cards or if you have friends who don't have children and who would 'donate' a portion of their purchases to us, contact Erica for an application form.

Early Act

- Food Fridays
 - Week 5: Pancake Mix for R40 (12 November)
 - Week 7: Rotis for R30 (26 November)
 - Week 9: This will be based on the most in demand product above (10 December)
- Tin Drive
 - We collected a total of 205 tins. Congratulations to the Grade 1s for bringing the most with a total of 164! Thank you to all those who brought tins for the drive!
- Tree of Joy Project
 - If you wish to participate in the Tree of Joy this year, please complete the google sheet. Your generosity will make this coming Christmas period extremely special for someone!
 - [Tree of Joy Sign up Sheet](#)
 - Steps
 1. Fill a box (or any gift packet) with a gift or gifts for your assigned child (children will be assigned at a later stage once we have received the details).
 2. Wrap the box and create a label.
 3. Send it to school.
 - It's as easy as that!*
- Collection of plastic bags
 - We are once again collecting plastic shopping bags for St Luke's Hospice. There is a box in the foyer that the bags can be placed in. If you have any that you need to get rid of, please send them to school with your children!

- **Auction of Christmas Tree**

Our latest tree is a beautiful creation done by Maïke Felmore and the pupils! This tree will be particularly appropriate for a business foyer. Please send silent bids to Tania at businessmanager@pnps.co.za by 12 November. Reserve price is R2000. All proceeds will go to our Solidarity Fund.



Library

A final reminder that all library and box books must be returned by **12 November**. Please check with your children and have a look wherever books are kept in your homes (as they can easily be mixed up) to see if you have any school library books that are outstanding. If books are not returned, the current value of replacing the book will be billed to your school account, and your child will not be allowed to take any books from the library until the account is paid.

Textbooks

Also, please make sure that your children return their textbooks for each subject on the day that they write the last exam for that subject. Please make sure that the book that your child returns is, in fact, the one that was checked out on their name at the start of the year to avoid confusion later. As with library books, the current value of the textbook(s) not returned will be billed to your school account.

School History

We are all getting older and, as I do, I have become more and more aware of oral history that 'dies' when older family members die. We carry the history of Pinelands North in our heads and hearts, and it is our responsibility to ensure that this history does not die out when we leave. So, if you would like to share your memories of our school, please visit our website www.pnps.co.za, go to Downloads, then to Memories of PNPS page. Download the form, write down your special memories and once completed, please send these pages to us at admin@pnps.co.za – we are wanting to create a living document to add to the archives we are working on as one of our strategic actions over the next few years. Please encourage any past pupils you have contact with to do so too.

Outings...finally!

Although we still cannot take children away on camps or tours, the WCED is allowing schools to take children on outings now. Please be assured that should this happen, all the usual Covid protocols will be in place to ensure the safety of our staff and children.

Vaccinations

We were so excited last week to be one of the first schools to offer to vaccinate children on our premises. Forty-five pupils, parents and adults were assisted, with the help of Salmarz Pharmacy. Well done to the more than 70 grade 6 and 7 children who are already vaccinated! If you are uncertain as to whether your child would benefit, please post your questions to Dr Claire Draper using this link so that she can address them: <https://forms.office.com/r/gx9Xc46BRY>

Lost Property

Sadly, a large number of items are unnamed and don't find their way back to the rightful owners. Please plan to use the December holidays to name all items that your children will bring to school in the new year. Precious lost property is kept in the safe. Items not claimed by the end of this month will be handed over to charity.

Can you help?

- We have many library books that are very well-loved by our pupils, however, this has taken its toll on them. We are looking to replace these collections with newer editions. If anyone would like to donate copies or money towards purchasing new copies of the Skullduggery Pleasant, Percy Jackson, Harry Potter, and Captain Underpants series, please contact Caroline on library@pnps.co.za. As always, any appropriate book donations are always welcomed so contact Caroline if you'd like some guidance on possible books.
- We have a family in need of a cottage to rent. It would need to accommodate mom and two children. If anyone can assist, please contact Erica at reception who will pass the information on to the family.

Yours sincerely



ANN MORTON
Principal

Dear Parents

Parent Volunteers for 2022

With all the children returning to school fulltime in 2022, the teaching fraternity of PNPS will be put under further strain. The reason for this is that we will continue to divide each grade into 3 classes because of social distancing, and this means that teachers will not have any admin periods during a week, will teach full time from 8 – 2 every day, and not have any support in the form of teacher aides as they will be teaching full time themselves.

PNPS has a wonderful tradition of parents volunteering in many ways to enhance our school community, and this year specifically we have seen parents provide classroom support to Grade 1 teachers, playground duty and traffic control duty. With the increased stretch on teachers for 2022 we invite parents to consider assisting in the classrooms across all grades, thereby relieving the increased pressure on teachers.

Parent volunteers will receive online training by our learning support department in class management, in understanding the ethos of the school and in positive discipline. The role of parent volunteers will be to assist in the classrooms, either with small groups of children or in the admin work for the grade. Next year parent volunteers will be able to sign up for time slots that suit their diaries. Support will also be provided on an ad hoc basis and a police clearance will be obtained for the volunteers by the school.

If you would like more information, please sign up on the Google form via this link to indicate your interest. By signing up you are not making a commitment to volunteer, rather Jacqui Tooke (Parent, SGB) and Joanne Peers (Community Support) will contact you to explain in more detail how it all will work.

Link: <https://forms.gle/bbRVZZJwWyFB6Kwa6>

Yours sincerely



Ann Morton
Principal

PNIPS

Pinelands North Primary School

Ethos of Pinelands North Primary

Hosted by: Joanne Peers & Ann Morton

via Zoom

Date: Wednesday, 8 December 2021

Time: 9:30-10:30



PNIPS

Pinelands North Primary School

Pinelands North Primary School
Volunteering Programme

*Hosted by: Haley Holton, Chanel
Coetzee & Joanne Peers*

via Zoom

Date: Wednesday, 8 December 2021

Time: 10:30-11:30





24 August 2021

TOW WHO IT MAY CONCERN

On behalf of Mowbray Maternity Hospital and the Social Work Department, we would like to thank you for your donations and contributions. Your generous donations help us to continue rendering services to the less fortunate members who are attending at our facility (susceptible-pregnant women). You are helping us in our mission to assist those in need (susceptible women and children). The generous support of individuals like you make it possible for our hospital and department to render such a unique service to the broader community and impact their lives for the greater good.

We truly appreciate your commitment to our facility. We could not do it without you.

Thank you again

Sincerely

Ms Leizil Page
Social Worker
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Email: Leizil.Page@westerncape.gov.za

Ms Mai'lin Lucas
Social Worker
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Enquiries: W.J.Jantjies

Circular: 0069/2021

Expiry date: None

To: Deputy Directors-General, Chief Directors, Directors, Chief Education Specialists, Circuit Managers, Principals of ordinary public schools and Members of governing bodies

Short summary: *Consent to WhatsApp groups in terms of the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act 4 of 2013).*

Subject: WhatsApp groups and the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (Act 4 of 2013)

1. The Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), 2013 (Act 4 of 2013), came into operation on 01 July 2021 and the one-year grace period for implementation expired on 30 June 2021. The POPIA holds responsible parties accountable for the responsible processing of information that may entail the collection, storage and sharing of the personal information of data subjects, that is, the person/s to whom the personal information relates. Responsible parties such as the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) are now required by law to protect personal information from unauthorised access, processing, modification, or destruction.
2. It is common practice for WCED employees to create WhatsApp groups to facilitate efficient work arrangements within the organisation. When an employee is added to a WhatsApp group, their name, cellular phone number and profile photos are automatically visible to the other members of the group. As names, cellular phone numbers and personal photos are defined as personal information under the POPIA, consent must be obtained for this personal information to be shared with members of the group. Thus, to be compliant with the POPIA, consent for membership of work-related WhatsApp groups must be requested by the responsible group administrator.

1 North Wharf Square, 2 Lower Loop Street,
Foresshore, Cape Town, 8001
Tel: +27 21 467 2000 Fax: +27 21 483 7658

Private Bag X9114, Cape Town, 8000
Employment and salary enquiries: 0861 92 33 22
Safe Schools: 0800 45 46 47
wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za

3. Guidelines for WhatsApp groups (for work-related purposes)

These guidelines relate only to the membership of **work-related** WhatsApp groups.

3.1 Existing work-related WhatsApp groups

To obtain consent from group members for continued membership of the group, group administrators are advised to post a message to this effect as soon as possible. An example follows below:

Consent for membership of WhatsApp groups

"Good day group members,

*The purpose of the POPIA, 2013 (Act 4 of 2013) is to protect personal information. This act came into effect on 01 July 2020 and the one-year grace period for compliance expired on 30 June 2021. Names, cellular phone numbers and profile photos are defined as personal information in terms of the POPIA. Your name, cellular phone number and profile photo are visible to other group members by virtue of your membership of this group. Thus, to ensure compliance with the said act, your consent to be part of this group and to share your personal information with other group members, is required. If you consent to the continued membership of this group (and the sharing of your name, cellular phone number and profile photo with other group members), please respond to this message, indicating your consent. However, if you wish **not** to remain part of this group, either do not reply or indicate clearly that you do not consent. If you do not consent or reply within one week, you will be removed from this group by the group administrator.*

Yours sincerely

Group Administrator"

- 3.2 Group members who do not explicitly give their consent in response to this message should be removed from the group by the group administrator.

4. Creating new WhatsApp groups for work-related purposes

- 4.1 When creating a new WhatsApp group, privately ask potential members to consent to sharing their personal information (name, cellular phone number and profile picture) on the group before adding them.
- 4.2 To add members to the WhatsApp group, it is advisable to send them a link rather than adding them directly.

- 4.3 It is the group administrator's responsibility to ensure that all new members have given their consent to be part of the WhatsApp group.
5. Attached, please find Annexure A, *Tips for use of WhatsApp in relation to POPIA Compliance*.
6. Kindly ensure that the content of this circular is brought to the attention of all concerned.

SIGNED: B WALTERS

HEAD: EDUCATION

DATE: 2021-11-02