



Newsletter 6/2023

28 March 2023

Dear Parents

Staff

- Although Thaakirah Fritz was offered a full bursary for teaching from the WCED, she has chosen to remain at PNPS, much to our delight! She has already signed up with Two Oceans to do a teaching degree via distance learning instead. Welcome 'back', Thaakirah.
- Two of our Presidential Interns have been given amazing opportunities to work overseas: Liam Goodall will join a cricket team in Lancashire for the UK summer season and Nyasha Mukodzongi has received funding to study to be a nurse in the UK. Congratulations to you both!
- On 18 March Erin Petersen became Erin du Plessis! Congratulations Erin and Lucian on your marriage.
- Several staff have been presenting at local and national conferences recently. On Saturday Tamsin Carelse was the keynote speaker at the inaugural novice teachers' symposium, and Shereen Stadler and Haley Holton presented positive discipline training, one in English and one in Afrikaans, to FEDSAS schools nationally. So proud of you all!

End of Term

- Thursday will be our usual end of term civvies day! Thanks so much to the families who chose to pay more than R10 for civvies last time. The minimum donation again is R10 but feel free to add to this amount to support struggling families in our community.
- School will close at 11:00 on Friday and opens on Wednesday, 12 April at 7:50. Grade 3 pupils will conduct assembly at 10:00 on Friday.
- Reports will be available on the Edana App from 15:00 on Friday. Remember to print a copy and return to school next term, with your own comment attached.

Admissions 2024

- Admissions for the WCED schools opened on Monday, 13 March. Most of the applications received so far are from families needing a place in grade 1. This means that there are going to be some exceptionally unhappy families in May when this is announced. If you are affected by this, please make alternative arrangements already – 3 classes of children from Red Roots need to be accommodated into 2 grade 1 classes and so **not one additional child will be accepted!**
- The only grade accepting children currently is our grade R, Red Roots, and we have already received 309 applications for 60 spaces!

- Applications close on 14 April for 2024 applications. If you haven't applied online, please do so urgently. The school also requires additional information so go to our website and ensure that information is also handed in on time.

School play 2023

Auditions for grade 6 and 7 pupils for main character roles started yesterday and rehearsals for our August school play start next term. Every child will participate during the week from 1 – 4 August, with performances in the mornings and evenings. School will start at 9:00 and end at 13:00 that week but on Friday children will not leave at 13:00 as there is an afternoon and evening performance that day.

Photographs

Individual photos will be taken on Thursday, 20 April 2023. The package that can be ordered consists of 1 bookmark, 3 x 100 by 65mm, 1 x 200 by 150mm, 1 x 150 by 100mm, 1 x 100 by 70mm and 2 x 70 by 50mm. The cost of the package is R115, and orders can be placed on Karri from today. The closing date for the orders will be 17 April 2023. Please note that no late orders will be processed. Also take note that should you want a package with an individual photo and a package with siblings, you will need to order two sets. You may also only order a sibling set without any individual packages. Please contact Tania Jansen van Rensburg on businessmanager@pnps.co.za if you have any questions.

Winter sport and culture photos will also be taken on 20 April 2023. Please ensure that your child has the correct kit at school, including the correct sport socks. Group photos will be loaded on Karri in due course.

Blog site

A few years ago I started a blog post at Blogger.com called Reflections of a Passionate Principal. Some years I have more time than others to write so these are not regular posts but there are certainly about 60 posts to read currently.

Music

Music applications are available throughout the year so it's never too late to reap the benefits of learning an instrument! Several music teachers have space available from next term. Find a copy of our application form online or contact Thomas de Bruin at music@pnps.co.za for inquiries. Please note that all music fees need to be paid directly to the specific teacher in charge of the lessons. This doesn't include the music offered by Thomas de Bruin as he is employed by the school. Fees for his tuition will be billed to your school account.

Choir Festival

The final function hosted by PNPS before schools closed for Covid, was our inaugural interschools choir festival in March 2019. Last Thursday we hosted the second one! Participating choirs were from Pinehurst, Grace, Cannon's Creek, Pinelands Primary and our school. After each choir entertained the audience a large team choir, consisting of all the schools, sang together. The effect was electrifying!

Marimba Festival

The annual Marimba Festival will be taking on Friday, 12th May 2023 at the Baxter Theatre. Our marimba band will be performing at this festival. Please see the flyer on page 8 for the details of the event and how to book your tickets. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Medication at school

All unscheduled

medication needed during the day if your child is ill, should be handed to a teacher or the admin staff to administer. PLEASE ensure that ALL medication is administered and held by adults and that detailed instructions are sent with the medication. Please familiarise yourself with the Administering of Medication Policy in your child's homework book.

Online School

Remember that if your family chooses to head overseas, or go on sabbatical, your children can continue at PNPS via this option, at the same school fees! The plan in the future is also to enrol pupils directly into the online school rather than face to face should this be required.

Early Act

- April is Autism month and on Friday, 14 April we will have an Autism civvies day at a minimum donation of R10. We ask that children wear something in blue on this day. You will be able to pay on the Karri app.
- Please could we ask you to start cleaning out your cupboards for any lightly worn winter items which we will donate to help keep people warm during this winter.
- If you have ordered easter eggs, they will be delivered to your child's class on Friday morning.

Book Sale

There is a book sale in the hall tomorrow and Thursday. Please send your children to school with cash, should they find a book that they would like to purchase.

Uniform

A reminder that only sports uniform or school uniform may be worn to school daily, and not a combination of these two. No additional jackets or fleece tops may be worn over the uniform when coming to school either. Should you be concerned for your child's warmth in the classroom because all windows and doors should be open regardless of the weather, please include a fleece blanket which can be left at school. Remember hair is to be tied up and clipped away from the face, so that it doesn't impede learning!

New School Principal

- As I turn 65 in 2024, a new principal will take over the school in 2025. Please don't be concerned. The Governing Body is already working on this and has created an 'Expression of Interest' notification which has been publicized widely already and can be found on page 7. Please share this information as widely as possible yourself.
- This post will be advertised via the WCED Vacancy List in September 2023 with the idea that the person be appointed early in 2024 to work with the school during my final year to ensure a smooth transition.

Pupils' extra-curricular achievements

- Four of our pupils have been selected for the SA team to participate in the upcoming KSI Karate World Champs. They are Imaan Parker, Josh Giannakis, Faith Patrick and Isla Patrick.

- Luke Bell will be going to Spain for an international open classical chess tournament over these holidays.

Family General Knowledge Vocabulary Learning

In newsletter 5/2023 I shared some suggestions about taking your children out shopping with you so that they start learning about money in real life. Shereen and I had a long discussion about words used in Mathematics that children might be taught at home for future use in real life. Spend some time in the holidays playing with these words as a family:

- Dozen
- Quart
- Baker's dozen
- Inches, yards, feet
- Price per kilogram (and work out the price of one)
- What meat is the cheapest to buy (price per kilogram vs amount)
- Currency values and exchange rates
- What currencies are used in which countries
- Venn diagrams
- Profit and loss
- Tessellations
- Symmetry
- Geometric
- Tally
- Quotient
- Sequence
- Budgeting
- Predict

Updated Homework Policy

The school regularly updates policies, and these are placed on our website under 'Downloads'. Some are not available on the website because they are very visible to the children daily like the Homework Policy as it is printed annually in the school diary. See page 5 and 6 of this newsletter for the updated one.

Can you help?

We are always in need of additional plant cuttings to grow in jars indoors. If you prune your garden during the holidays, please send these to me next term.

And finally...

To those families currently taking part in Ramadan, many blessings for this month, and to those Jewish and Christian families who will celebrate during the school holidays, may it be a meaningful time with family and friends.

Yours sincerely



ANN MORTON
Principal

We believe that homework is necessary in primary school because it:

- allows for differentiated teaching and learning.
- develops self-discipline and independence in children.
- provides opportunities for consolidation, practice and enrichment.
- provides opportunities to learn study skills and time management.
- aids concentration.
- instils in pupils an attitude of lifelong learning.
- develops the co-operation and communication between home and school.
- involves parents in the child's learning.

Play is also important though so homework should not be given just for something to do at home.

Homework at Pinelands North consists of:

- daily reading and tables
- consolidation of classwork
- research and project work
- preparing for assessments

Because of the relationship between home and school, parents can assist their children by:

- helping them to develop a daily routine which includes a study programme.
- getting children to prepare for the following day the evening before by looking at the following day's timetable and packing bags accordingly.
- checking homework diaries and signing daily.
- ensuring that children have a suitable place to work and needed materials such as stationery, dictionaries and paper.
- contacting the class teacher if your child does not seem to have any homework ever.
- getting involved, particularly with holiday projects and 'family type' homework.
- not helping your child too much - remember, homework is your child's responsibility.
- giving lots of praise and constructive criticism.
- setting a good example by doing 'homework' yourself, like paying accounts or reading.

Teachers will ensure that homework is meaningful by:

- giving parents information about the types of homework to be set in each grade at the first parent meeting each year.
- setting research and project tasks that are not dependent on resources that might be inaccessible for some pupils.
- explaining to children in advance all that is involved in projects or homework tasks.
- including interactive homework tasks which involve all family members.

'Homework' that doesn't require textbooks, tests and exercises, but has a positive effect on your child's educational development:

- lots of family conversation, storytelling and jokes.
- bedtime stories with parents reading to children.
- private reading in bed before the lights go out.
- imaginative play.
- family board/card games, activities and hobbies.
- regular visits to the public library.
- outings to places of social, historical, natural and national interest.

Music pupils' homework

Children enjoy playing an instrument more when they are progressing. To progress, children need regular practice. It will benefit your child greatly to have specified times for practicing. Please look for quality and not quantity. Encourage your child when they practise and praise their efforts. A small notebook is recommended for the teacher to write down what to practise each week. Pupils should read this before each practice.

Daily practice for music pupils:

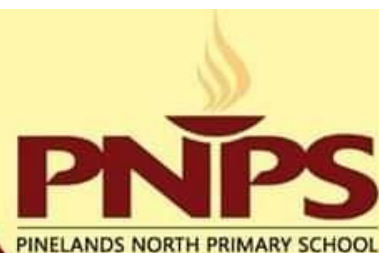
Foundation Phase	10 minutes
Intermediate/Senior Phase	15 - 20 minutes

Guide to time spent working after school hours

	HOMEWORK	MAX TIME	DIARY
Gr1	Reading Sounds, word building, <u>spelling</u> Maths practice Simple projects and orals	30 minutes	Google Drive
Gr2 and Gr 3	Reading and lees Spelling, <u>spel</u> , <u>klanke</u> and phonics Maths practice Simple projects and orals	30 minutes	Google Drive
Gr4 to Gr7	Reading and lees Spelling/ <u>spel</u> Tables/bonds Basic Maths and problem solving Assignments, <u>projects</u> and research Revision	1 hour	Regulation school diary Google Drive

January 2011
Last update March 2023

UPCOMING PRINCIPAL POSITION, COMMENCING JANUARY 2025



School Principal



The Governors of Pinelands North Primary School are notifying educational leaders that the following post will be advertised in the Western Cape Education Department's Vacancy List 3, opening on 4 September 2023.

Pinelands North Primary School is a high-functioning, inclusive, diverse, innovative and progressive school and was a finalist in the 2022 World's Best Schools' Competition.



Requirements:

The successful applicant will demonstrate these and other key attributes:

- Dynamic, strong, innovative leadership and management abilities
- Experience in a senior leadership position at primary school level
- Ability to think strategically and to make visionary decisions
- Strong inter-personal skills extending to human resource management and conflict resolution
- Excellent proficiency in written and spoken English
- Sound financial management skills
- Strong knowledge of curricula and educational technology developments
- The drive to continuously improve our high standards and existing inclusive ethos
- A passion for education, with the desire to make a difference in a diverse and multi-cultural school environment

The remuneration package offered will be according to the WCED pay scale and may include school Governing Body benefits as negotiated.

For more information:



021 531 3414



admin@pnps.co.za

Marimba

— Cape Town Marimba Festival 2023 —

DATE

FRIDAY 12 MAY

TIME

19H30

VENUE

BAXTER
CONCERT HALL
CAPE TOWN

TICKETS

ADULTS R140
SENIORS, SCHOLARS &
STUDENTS R100

PARTICIPATING MARIMBA BANDS

PARKLANDS COLLEGE, BISHOPS HIGH, CANNONS CREEK, HERSCHEL HIGH,
REDDAM CONSTANTIA, GROVE PRIMARY, FORRES, RUSTENBURG GIRLS'
HIGH, PINELANDS HIGH, PNPS, EDGE MEAD HIGH, MICKLEFIELD, DSK,
NED DOMAN, LIVINGSTONE HIGH, SACS, WYNBERG GIRLS' HIGH

CAPE TOWN BIG BAND
Jazz
— FESTIVAL —

WoodWorx :  Marimbas
Play 22 Forward

THE
BAXTER



BOTHNERS
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS & EQUIPMENT SERVICE PROVIDER



HEI foundation 



web tickets
AVAILABLE AT **Pick n Pay**


**STUDIO
SLATE**



A vibrant poster for the GYM WIZARDS Holiday Club. The background is a bright blue sky with white clouds and colorful triangular bunting flags. In the center is a large yellow sun-like shape containing the text 'GYM WIZARDS' in a bold, black, sans-serif font, and 'Holiday Club!' in a large, white, stylized font with a red outline. Above the text is a small purple diamond logo with 'GW' and two stars. To the left of the central shape, a cartoon ninja is climbing a yellow balloon. To the right, a group of children are playing on a horizontal bar. At the bottom left, a child is performing a handstand on a brown platform. The poster is divided into several sections with rounded corners: an orange circle on the left for 'For Ages 4 - 10', a purple circle at the bottom left for 'Dates: 3 - 6 April 2023', a white box in the center for 'Fun Activities:', a white box on the right for 'Venues:', and a purple circle at the bottom right for 'Just R370 per day per child!'. A small orange circle with 'Booking Essential!' and an arrow points towards the pricing section. The GYM WIZARDS logo and tagline 'STRONGER. FITTER. SMARTER KIDS' are at the bottom center.

GYM WIZARDS
Holiday Club!

Fun fitness-gymnastics & parkour club!

For Ages
4 - 10

Dates:
3 - 6 April 2023
Drop off and free play between 8:30 and 9 am
Programme 9 am until 1 pm.
Collection between 1 and 1.15 pm

Fun Activities:

- Tumbling (beginners welcome)
- Trampoline
- Yoga/ball skills
- Fun Games
- Arts & crafts
- Water & fruit breaks
- Small groups (max 10 kids)
- Safety Certified and qualified staff

Venues:

1. Gym Wizards Pinelands
Unit G8, Sunrise Park, Prestige Drive, Ndabeni, Cape Town
2. Gym Wizards Cape Town
NG Kerk in Cape Town. Corner of Kloofnek & Nicol St, Tamboerskloof, Cape Town, 8001

Booking Essential!

Just R370 per day per child!

Call: 064 603 9021
Or email: pinelands@gymwizards.co.za

GYM WIZARDS
STRONGER. FITTER. SMARTER KIDS

