



ESHOWE HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER: No. 2/2020

18th March 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardians

1. On 15 March 2020, President Cyril Ramaphosa declared the outbreak of the Covid – 19 a national state disaster in terms of the Disaster Management Act. The President also announced that all schools must close on Wednesday 18 March 2020 and re-open on Tuesday 14 April 2020. Due processes will be followed to formally amend the school calendar to make up the **loss of 10 school days**.
2. We have already been informed by the Director General in KZN that the following steps will be taken to try and recover the academic programme:
 - The June 2020 vacation will be shortened by seven (7) days.
 - The September 2020 vacation will be shortened by two (2) days.
3. **Eshowe High Recovery Plan:** The school will put together a recovery plan to ensure that the lost teaching, learning and assessment time is recovered across all grades. A 6th period will be added to the school day. The adjusted bell times are included with this newsletter.
4. A number of processes that usually take place at the end of a term, like handing out **academic and behaviour reports**, has being brought to a halt because of the early closure of school. We will discuss the release of these at the start of the new term.
5. **Term 2 Calendar:** Once we receive the Department of Education's amended school calendar, we will send out an Eshowe High Schools calendar that will indicate the activities of the term.
6. **Mid-Year Examinations / Tests:** All grades will write mid-year examinations at the end of the second term. Tentatively, the examinations will begin on Thursday 28 May and finish on Friday 12 June 2020. Dates for the Language P3 examinations are as follows:

DATES	GR 12	GR 11	GR 10	GR 9	GR 8
22 April DAY 4	ENGLISH EXAMINATION PAPER 3				
06 May DAY 4	AFRIKAANS/ISIZULU EXAMINATION PAPER 3				

7. **School Fees:** While we realise that times are difficult, we urge parents not to neglect paying their school fees. The only way it will be possible to continue to maintain standards at this school and to be the best in the district, is if the majority of parents continue to commit themselves to paying their share of the school fees. Those parents/guardians who have blatantly disregarded their obligation to pay the school fees for 2019 are currently being handed over to our debt collector.
8. **School Uniform:** The learners will start wearing winter uniform when they return to school on the 14 April 2020 after the Easter weekend break. Learners involved in sports next term will need to have winter uniform for all away matches.

I appeal to parents to continue to encourage their children to come dressed in the correct school uniform.
9. **Grade 8 High School Readiness Assessment:** During the month of February, all grade 8 learners were assessed by an Educational Psychologist, who tested their readiness for high school. I have

enclosed with this newsletter, your child's/ward's individual report and the Psychologist's overall impression and recommendations.

10. **Class and Individual Photographs:** The Class and Individual photographs will be taken on Thursday 30 April 2020. Payment for any photographs will need to be made **before** this date or your child/ward will not have his/her individual photograph taken. Prices and details are as follows:

Package 1	1	x	A4 Individual Combo Set photo <i>plus</i>	R60.00
	1	x	Class Group photo.	
Package 2	1	x	Class Group photo <i>plus</i>	R30.00
	1	x	A5 Individual Combo Set photo.	

11. **Outstanding Stationery fees:** I would like **to thank the majority** of our parents who have paid for their child/ward's stationery. I would like to encourage the others to pay for the stationery as soon as possible.
12. **Extra Lessons:** We are again offering extra lessons in the second term. The timetable for the second term is included in the envelope with this newsletter – please encourage your children/wards to make use of this free service.

13. Learners have been advised as follows:

- To draw up a daily study/revision plan and to go over the work that was taught in term 1.
- To complete the work set by their teachers.
- To spend time reading their English and Afrikaans/Isizulu set works and poetry.
- To wash their hands frequently with soap or hand sanitisers.
- To cover their nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing with tissue or a flexed elbow.
- To avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms.
- To take a multivitamin to boost their immune system.

Finally, whilst we appreciate the extent of the threat that this disease presents, and accept the anxiety that it causes, I would like to call on all parents/guardians and learners to be calm and not to be overwhelmed by fear and panic, and to be aware of fake and unverified news that may be spread by unscrupulous people to create further apprehension and alarm.

Psalm 91: Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart

Yours faithfully,



E. Curtis
PRINCIPAL