



South African College Junior School

Headmaster's Circular 2/2018

2 February 2018

Liewe SACS Pre-Primere Skool en SACS Junior Ouers

Niphila njani, bazali? (How are you all, parents?) Assalaamualaykum. One-twelfth into the year means that there is no turning back! Certainly, we have no regrets, as the events which kick-started 2018 augur fantastically for another year of wonderment and awe at SACS. For our boys, parents (including the SACS SGB and new-look PTA) and staff, a hearty thanks and rousing applause are in order. All this against the flood of information, media hype, angst and planning around the subject of water!

SAY 'YES' TO WWS!

Water-Wise SACS! That is what we introduced to the boys and staff at Monday's Assembly - a platform which offers lessons and values common to the shared landscapes of home and school. Based on the meanings behind 'Heart', 'Mind' and 'Kind', we visited the measures communicated to parents and staff via our previous circular. These will be integral in seeing SACS and the Greater Cape Town through our water crisis. We shall continue to roll out the SACS Water Management Strategy and which will be central in achieving our goals. Points visited in Assembly include:

- As it is vital to believe that we will meet the challenges ahead, we reminded the boys of the power of teamwork and amazing SACS achievements through collaboration.
- How do we say this? We strive to keep the mood 'buoyant' and upbeat as we find humour and a positive outlook.
- Signage indicating 'Urinals off', 'Tap on', 'Don't flush', 'Use hand sanitiser', 'Be Water Wise @ SACS' were displayed as reminders of what is expected in 'the cloakroom zone', in the classroom and in sport.
- We recommend that boys bring their own water in a 500ml plastic, reusable bottle to be refilled at school in order to have access to drinkable water at all times, which is a right.
- Drinking water directly from a tap causes wastage, therefore the use of a bottle or cup is required.
- Another right – access to a clean environment – is our priority. Hand sanitiser has been provided, although soap and water will be needed to wash hands after, for example, Art or messy play.
- Utmost respect for water as a life-giving gift.
- We follow the guidelines (see image above) laid out in Level 6B Restrictions.
- The mindfulness of each individual will determine the cohesion of the team which can lead the community to success.



At a special meeting held on Wednesday for principals of the schools in greater Cape Town, Premier Helen Zille spelled out salient points from the Western Cape Government's Water Management Strategy. Within this, the WCED states that Public Schools will not close, should Day Zero arise. We feel confident in managing the situation, due to various aspects from which our School benefits – having a borehole; ability to maintain effective sanitation; excellent support from stakeholders. We feel encouraged that the Western Cape Government is putting convincing measures in place which will be publicised in the near future. These include striving to have water delivered to schools for children and staff by the WCED; assisting schools with boreholes to link these to ablutions; heightened security strategies during peak times. Medium to longer-term planning shows how the Western Cape will build capacity to provide bulk storage for our growing City's needs in future.

At present, there are various moves to adjust Sports Programmes for the drought period. This requires discussion amongst Junior and High schools, as well as local participating schools and communities. A means to provide alternative activities needs to be researched. As conclusions are drawn, these will be communicated to families and staff. We must all be mindful that a calm, determined attitude – combined with absolute compliance with water-saving ethics – will see Day Zero averted. If we use no more than 50 litres of water per person per day for the next 150 days, we can make it. If we use less than 50 litres per day for this period, Day Zero will be hit for a six! So, we must follow 'WWS' and be Water-Wise SACS 24/7 at school, in the home and in public.



SPIRIT DAY

Mr K Marshall: Head of Sport

All boys are allowed to wear House colours to school for **SPIRIT DAY ON FRIDAY 9 FEBRUARY**. They are requested **NOT TO WEAR HOUSE SHIRTS** as this will be worn for the Athletics Day on Saturday 10 February. Please note that boys are allowed to wear face paint, etc on Friday BUT IT IS NOT PERMITTED FOR SATURDAY'S EVENT.

RUGBY AND HOCKEY MOUTHGUARD OPTION

Mr K Marshall: Head of Sport

MAX Mouthguards will be at SACS Junior School on 21 Feb, 6 and 15 March at 12:45 to take impressions for the Rugby and Hockey season.

The link to the MAX online shop is: shop.maxmouthguards.co.za

Parents will need to follow this link and choose the school and session they would like to attend. They will only be accepting orders online where parents can pay by credit card, cash or EFT. Students will no longer be able to fill in forms and request mouthguards without their parents' consent, so everything needs to be done by the parent online. (Cash or EFT proof of payment will need to be provided on the day.)

D6 COMMUNICATOR

Please download the D6 Communicator in order to stay up to date with times and happenings at the School.
<http://www.school-communicator.com/downloads/school>

UNDER 13 REDDAM ACTION WATER POLO TOURNAMENT

Mr J Edwards: Waterpolo

On Friday and Saturday last week, the Under 13 A Water Polo Team took part in the Reddam Action Water Polo Tournament. With the Tournament taking place very early in the season the team were looking to gel together and start developing momentum as we move forward to the League. There were three matches on day one. The side beat Rhenish 8-1, Rondebosch 6-3 and Reddam U13B side 13-0. On day two, the team aimed to continue to build on the previous day's performance and they did so in their final two pool matches beating Sun Valley 7-1 and Bishops Invitational Team 15-0. They reached the knockout stages of the Tournament and knew that they could no longer make any unnecessary mistakes. The quarter final was against Wynberg and the boys won that match 10-3. The semi-final was against Oakhill and the team played some lovely Polo to progress to the final, winning the match 6-2. The final was against Rondebosch, and the boys were tasked with settling their nerves and playing to their full potential. They did so and were rewarded with a tight 3-2 win and the title of Reddam Action Tournament Champions for 2018. Well done to the boys and Mr Wilmans on a terrific tournament. It is a wonderful way to kick off the 2018 season.



LOWER CAMPUS PROJECT

Please note that, as from Monday 5 February, preparations will begin for the upgrade of ablutions and facilities at the Aquatic Centre. The main thrust is to allow for the venue to serve other sports codes more widely – for example: Cricket, Tennis and Hockey – while making improvements to the current state of the change rooms for Polo and Swimming. The boys will be advised as to which areas will be out of bounds temporarily and the area will be fenced off for the duration of the project to maximise safety.



SAXIE TWEETS!:

- We wish all of the very best to boys, staff and parents as we prepare for next Friday's annual Spirit Day and SACS Junior Inter-House Athletics taking place at SACS High School on Saturday 10 February. It is going to be a great day!
- Well done to our Tuck Shop cuisine specialists, the gifted Mrs Lara Kritzinger and Mrs Siphokazi Ntshobole (Cheffy!) for making sure that SACS tummies are happy since the beginning of term. *Kuyenzeka é SACS Tuck Shop (It is happening!)*
- We remind all families and staff of the importance of reading daily. This, for enjoyment, but also to empower our minds in the core skills which this age-old habit develops and nurtures. On Thursday 1 February – 'World Read Aloud Day' – a goal has been set for 1 000 000 South Africans to be read to!
- Congratulations to SACS sports achievers who were selected to represent Western Province in Tennis. Thomas Tilney and Bryan Sutcliffe made the Under 13 Section while Brett van Rooyen will participate at Under Eleven level. We are very proud of these SACS boys!
- Please remember to collect and store white paper and magazines in support of our 'Drive to Recycle'. Next Tuesday is the SACS White Paper and Glass Collection Drive and House points are up for grabs. The 'play-it-forward' effect of passing on magazines brings a highlight of joy to recipients who are desperate for reading material.
- Good luck to those involved in events which commence before our next circular: The SACS Cubs as they strive for their Swimming Badge; SACS Staff attending First Aid Training; U13A Cricket who play against Great Walstead (UK) next Tuesday and our Grade Sixes who attend their annual Camp at 'High Africa', near Worcester.

GEMS: THOSE 'OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES' MOMENT!

There was GREAT excitement yesterday when our Grade One boys were told that they would be taking part in the 'Read Aloud' Drive. One – completely beside himself with anticipation – asked his teacher: 'Ma'am! Does that mean that we are allowed to read?' Gosh! – third week of term and, already, our Grade Ones are cracking homophones!

We remind parents and teachers that, should there be any such hilarious cameos which arise at school or in the home, please forward these to the School. We're always trying to find humour!

With the door to February already wide open, we invite you heartily to step into the first weekend of the month. May you have fun together, sharing food, laughter and happiness as you continue to bank memories for 2018 already. *Kube emnandi! (Be happy!) Geniet die naweek!*

Hamba kakhuhle

F M J NEL
HEADMASTER

