



**SUNRIDGE
VANDAG**



**SUNRIDGE
TODAY**

15 December 2020

Dear Parents

As Principal I do not have the luxury to randomly decide on matters, but strangely I am always held accountable. We understand the advantages of the children playing and going outside during a school day and while it is also our first choice it is an aspect that must be managed carefully.

After consulting with professionals it is clear, that at this stage, the risks outweigh the advantages. We were so close to moving forward when the need for social engagement and physical activities overwhelmed our society. One specific grade at Sunridge went full out with social gatherings and functions outside the school and they now have the highest report of infected families. Again, I do not have the luxury of revealing confidential information but should I and my team have failed to act decisively and responsibly I would have been accountable.

All school aspects will start exactly the same in 2021. Only when otherwise advised will we change. Currently more than 95% of parents support our safety measures. We will also only introduce activities which we can manage safely.

There were parents who chose to leave to explore other options, with some now wanting to return. They now face the fact that our enrolment has reached our calculated capacity and we, unfortunately, cannot accommodate them.

Sunridge is blessed with wonderful children, parents and staff. 2020 proved to be a year where the Lord has blessed us even more than ever - our team spirit was not only tested and tempered in fire but we are in high spirits as the time to really relax has finally arrived. Time to lift our Christmas spirit for giving and also time to welcome a new year.

A friendly smile was replaced with loving and caring eyes and the voices behind the masks was embedded in the way we looked at each other. In my books, eyes talking and living each day was something 2020 will always be remembered for.

Thank you so much for the little things you have done, never in all my years have I experienced so many parents' greetings in the mornings, waving and just taking time to care while dropping children off. The patience and tolerance shown while waiting to pick children up was out of this world. Thank you so much.

The year had its quota of positive aspects and we were blessed with rain far beyond what we expected. The Lord opened the heavens and we must not take this for granted. With the support of our parents and friends we managed to continue with our development. The cultural studio and clothing store is coming along nicely and we cannot wait for its completion. The ladies toilets at the gymnasium are now a facility we can be proud of, the men's side will follow and with the renovation of the tuck shop we cannot wait to serve our children again - as soon as we can do so safely.

During the holidays our team will be painting and revamping the Grade 4 - 7 classrooms. The same will be done for Grade 1 - 3 in 2021. We bid farewell to the following staff: Ms Zietsman, Roothman and Gerber who are leaving Sunridge after 30, 25 and 24 years respectively, as well as Ms le Roux. We welcome the new staff who will replace them while not forgetting our current staff.

We wish you all a Blessed Festive Season and a wonderful New Year. Let us create the atmosphere we desire - camp in your back yard if needed with the same passion you might have enjoyed a holiday at the sea. Create your own memories and enjoy the little things, we have so much to be thankful for.

While some farmers have thanked the Lord for the first rain received in 6 years, there are others with nearly 10 years of drought behind them still waiting. They rejoiced with those who received rain. We must allow the "sun to shine on others."

May the Lord Bless you far beyond what you expect, not in your time but in His.

Take care and please be safe.



Sunshine greetings

M DE VRIES
Principal





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Geagte Ouers

As Skoolhoof is dit my nie beskore om voor die voet besluite te neem nie, maar vreemd genoeg word ek altyd aanspreeklik gehou. Ons eerste keuse is ook vir kinders om te kan speel en gedurende die skooldag buitendie te kan gaan, maar dit is 'n aangeleentheid wat sorgvuldig bestuur moet word.

Ná oorlegpleging met professionele persone is dit duidelik dat die risiko's op hierdie stadium swaarder weeg as die voordele. Ons was so na daaraan om aan te beweeg toe die samelewing besluit het om hulle aan die behoefte aan sosiale samekoms en fisiese aktiwiteite oor te gee. Een spesifieke graad by Sunridge het buite die skool maketie gehou en funksies gereël en daardie graad het nou die grootste aantal positiewe gevalle. Ek en my span kan weereens nie vertroulike inligting bekend maak nie, maar indien ons nie verantwoordelik en beslis opgetree het nie, sou ek aanspreeklik gewees het.

Alle skoolaspekte bly presies dieselfde vir 2021. Ons kan dit slegs verander indien ons in kennis gestel word. Meer as 95% van ouers ondersteun tans ons veiligheidsmaatreëls. Ons sal ook slegs aktiwiteite wat ons veilig kan bestuur, aanpak.

Daar was ouers wat gekies het om die skool te verlaat en elders aan te klop, sommige van hulle wil nou terugkeer, maar ons het ons inskrywingskapasiteit bereik en sal hulle ongelukkig nie kan help nie.

Sunridge is met fantastiese kinders, ouers en personeel geseën. Die Here het ons in 2020 selfs meer as gewoonlik geseën, ons spangees is tot die uiterste beproef, maar dit is nie gedemp nie en die rustyd het uiteindelik aanbreek. Dis tyd om in die gees van Kersfees vrygewig te wees en ook die nuwe jaar te verwelkom.

Liefdevolle omgee-oë het die vriendelike glimlag vervang en die stemme agter die maskers het die hartsnare geroer. Oë wat praat, is iets wat my altyd van 2020 sal bybly.

Baie dankie vir die klein dingetjies wat u gedoen het, ek het nog nooit ervaar dat soveel ouers soggens groet, waai en net omgee terwyl hulle kinders aflaai nie. Die geduld en verdraagsaamheid terwyl hulle vir hul kinders gewag het, was 'n belewenis. Baie dankie daarvoor.

Die jaar het sy kwota van positiewe aspekte gehad met die lieflike reëns wat geval het. Die Here het die sluise oopgetrek en ons dankbaarheid ken geen perke nie. Met die hulp van ons ouers en vriende was ons in staat om met ons ontwikkeling voort te gaan. Die kultuurateljee en klerewinkel vorder fluks en ons sien reikhalssend uit na die voltooië produk. Ons kan trots wees op die damesbadkamer by die gimnasium, die mansbadkamer vorder met rasse skrede en ons kan nie wag om ons kinders veilig vanuit die opgeknapte snoepie te bedien nie.

Ons span sal gedurende die vakansie die Gr 4- tot 7-klaskamers verf, terwyl Gr 1 tot 3 gedurende 2021 aan die beurt kom. Ons groet die volgende personele: Mev. Zietsman, Roothman en Gerber, wat ons na onderskeidelik 30, 25 en 24 jaar verlaat, asook mej. Le Roux. Ons verwelkom nuwe personele in hul plek, terwyl ons ook nie ons huidige personeel vergeet nie.

Ons wens u almal 'n geseëde feesseisoen toe en alles wat mooi is vir die nuwe jaar. Kom ons geniet dit wat ons kan, kampeer in u agtertuin indien nodig en maak dit net so lekker soos 'n seevakansie. Koester nuwe herinneringe en die klein dingetjies in die lewe, ons het so baie om voor dankbaar te wees.

Terwyl sommige boere vir die eerste keer in ses jaar die Here vir goeie reën gedank het, is daar ander wat byna 10 jaar van droogte agter die rug het. Hulle het in die reën gejuig. Ons moet toelaat dat die son oor ander mense skyn.

Mag die Here u ver bo verwagting seën, wanneer hy dit so bestem.

Wees waaksaam en bly asseblief veilig.

Sonskyngroete

M DE VRIES
Skoolhoof



A MESSAGE FROM THE SGB

This year certainly had far more challenges than we anticipated. Who would have imagined this when we started 2020 with so much excitement? Thankfully we have teachers and staff at Sunridge Primary who went above and beyond to ensure our children received the education they deserve, in spite of what happened in the world and the difficult circumstances that presented itself.

We, as the Governing Body, would like to thank Mr. De Vries, the amazing teachers and support staff at Sunridge for what they achieved this year. As Henry Kissinger said “A diamond is a chunk of coal that did well under pressure” – you are all magnificent, sparkling, diamonds. None of it would have been possible without you.

Thank you for being there for our children. When the world was upside down, you provided a safe haven, a sense of normality they needed so much.

Thank you to all the parents who understood the enormity of the task at hand and provided their support when needed.

We would also like to thank each and every learner for doing their part. It wasn't easy, but you got it done – congratulations! Enjoy the holidays, you deserve it. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Remember this – a smooth sea never made a skilful sailor. This too shall pass, but in the meantime do your part to ensure that we get to the other side safely.

Wishing all our teachers, staff, parents and children a blessed festive season filled with joy, hope and love.

Jonathan Aukett

SGB Chairman



PHOTO GALLERY / FOTOGALERY

