SUNRIDGE VANDAG | SUNRIDGE TODAY

CONJUNCTI CRESCIMUS

18 February/ Februarie 2021

Dear Parents

Our Grade 1's walked in as if they have been here for years. They are true hero's, facing the unknown bravely and facing challenges head on. Well done! We kicked off the start of the 2021 academic year with very few issues, 98.75% of our learners and 100% of our staff in attendance

Please use the drop off zones for dropping off only - do not get out of your vehicle. Leave home ready so that your child can easily and safely get out at the walk way/pavement side. Remember that we treat the road around the school as a one way. Always turn right into the street around the school. Plan your route so that you always drive anti-clockwise around the school and after dropping off take the very first exit to your right. This supports the traffic and parents still dropping off.

Remember to keep in mind that the Grade 1's are first to leave at 12:45. Grade 2 at 13:00, Grades 3 and 4 at 13:15 and Grades 5, 6 and 7 at 13:30 - please pace yourselves to allow for the grade in front of you.

Many parents have pointed out that it is way better than in the past, so thank you. Being friendly, patient and greeting each other is in everyone's interest. Let's keep it up.

Sadly, since last week we have again lost parents due to Covid-19 and we extend our deepest condolences to these families. We are keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers. Please be safe!

It is also with this in mind that we are working through the newly published government gazette and the fact that some **extra mural activities** are now allowed under certain strict regulations. To be in compliance we are taking care not to rush into it and to plan appropriately.

We have heard that some schools are going ahead irrespective but this is also a huge risk as the safety of learners, staff and parents outweighs the short term advantages. As soon as we have all the details worked out and in compliance, we will forward it to all parents for you to make the decision if your child will take part or not.

With a few schools also pushing the 50% class size and using creative measures to seemingly comply, we kindly need to point out that the 1,5 meter social distancing regulation is still a requirement. We will not push these boundaries as the lives of our children, staff and parents are way too important.

It would be easy to push boundaries and find creative ways to do so but this would be irresponsible. We were 4 teaching staff short; the Department could not deliver and we had to step in and appoint them well in advance to prepare and be ready for day one. We did just that and we are 100% functional. The Department could not deliver protective equipment and once again we had to step up and take responsibility for this. We have the same issue with our support staff and for the past five years we have been without a departmental secretary. As always we are proactive and ensure this school is 100% functional. To be honest, this is only achieved due to parents paying school fees. Yes, it is the right thing to do BUT also it is the only way to ensure the future of our children. We thank all parents for complying and for those struggling, please work with us and follow the protocol through Mrs Hart. We understand and we are willing to support you BUT know that eventually to run this school we need school fees. Thank you for your understanding.

Why do so many parents want to enrol their children at Sunridge? Why are they willing to pay our school fees? As with other schools just like us, experiencing the same interest, we need to recognise that we are different due to the compassion, loyalty and focus on our children. This is what drives and motivates our teachers to perform beyond the norm. Definitely not the pay cheque and support from authorities and bodies who want to be seen and recognised as role players in education.

Teaching staff, teacher assistants, facilitators, support staff and self-funded students appointed by the SGB have fewer advantages but are loyal and trustworthy to walk the extra mile for your child. Yes, we are also blessed with Departmental staff sharing the same values and living this calling to serve beyond the norm.

You need to look differently at us, you need to see what we do and pray for more teachers to walk this walk as it is fast becoming an extinct way of serving and managing schools and education.

The attack on this value driven way is immense and disguised in various ways within political turmoil. For the majority of schools it is also a means to hide their failure to deliver a value driven management and education irrespective of circumstances.

It is so easy to be deceived with what we currently have, forgetting and ignoring the unbelievable hard work and long hours put

into maintaining and expanding our school. We also recognise the support of our parents and community.

Nothing in this world is for free: be it hard work, unconditional support, working through challenges, paying school fees, support through sponsorship, donations or expertise - this is the currency carrying functional education.

We are not only under attack from Covid-19 but also from corruption and the tremendous urge by some to destroy our delivery of value driven education. As a community we need to stand even stronger to ensure the future of our children. The core that we need to protect and support are our staff and the quality they bring to our school.

Please stay safe and pray for our school. Rather live simply than just live!

Sunshine greetings
M de Vries
Principal

Geagte Ouers

Ons Gr 1's het hier ingestap asof hulle dit al jare lank doen. Hulle is ware helde wat die onbekende met durf aanpak en uitdagings vreesloos trotseer. Knap gedaan! Met 98,75% van leerlinge en 100% personeel aanwesig, kon ons 2021 met minimale probleme aanpak.

Gebruik die aflaaigebiede asseblief slegs om kinders af te laai en bly in u voertuig. Maak seker dat alles gereed is wanneer u die huis verlaat, sodat u kind veilig aan die sypaadjie/looppaadjie se kant kan uitklim. Onthou asseblief om die straat rondom die skool as 'n eenrigting te gebruik. Draai altyd regs in die straat rondom die skool. Beplan u roete sodat u altyd teenkloksgewys rondom die skool kan ry en gebruik die eerste afdraai na regs nadat u kind afgelaai is. Dit help om verkeer te laat vloei en is in belang van die ouers wat nog kinders aflaai.

Onthou asseblief dat Gr 1 eerste om 12:45 verdaag word, Gr 2 om 13:00, Gr 3 en 4 om 13:15 en Gr 5, 6 en 7 om 13:30 – laat asseblief ruimte vir die graad voor dié van u kind.

Ons opregte dank aan ouers, want dinge verloop nou heelwat meer vlot as in die verlede, soos baie ouers onder ons aandag gebring het. Vriendelikheid, geduld en om mekaar te groet, kos niks en is in almal se belang – kom ons hou dit in gedagte.
Ons moet met groot hartseer bekendmaak dat ons sedert verlede week weer ouers aan Covid-19 afgestaan het. Ons innige meegevoel aan die betrokke families. Ons hou u in ons gebede. Bly asseblief veilig!

Hiermee in gedagte bestudeer ons die jongste Staatskoerant met verwysing na **sommige buitemuurse aktiwiteite** wat onderworpe aan streng regulasies nou weer toegelaat word. Ons sal sorgvuldig beplan en nie halsoorkop instorm nie, sodat ons steeds die maatreëls kan eerbiedig.

Ons verneem dat sommige skole reeds hiermee begin het, maar dis 'n groot risiko en die veiligheid van leerlinge, personeel en ouers weeg swaarder as die korttermynvoordele. Sodra ons alle besonderhede agtermekaar het en veilig kan vorentoe beweeg, sal ons die ouers in kennis stel sodat hulle 'n ingeligte besluit kan neem oor deelname al dan nie.

'n Paar skole toets die grense deur die 50%-klasgroottes op kreatiewe maniere aan te pas sodat dit lyk asof hulle aan die maatreëls voldoen, hoewel die 1,5 m sosiale afstand steeds van krag is. Ons weier om ons kinders, personeel en ouers se lewens op die spel te plaas.

Dit sal maklik wees om die grense te skuif en kreatiewe maniere te vind om die maatreëls te omseil, maar dit is onverantwoordelik. Ons het 'n tekort aan 4 onderrigpersoneel gehad; die Departement kon hulle nie voorsien nie en ons moes inspring en seker maak dat hulle aangestel word en gereed is om op dag een diens te aanvaar, dus was ons 100% funksioneel. Die Departement kon nie beskermingstoerusting voorsien nie en weereens moes ons verantwoordelikheid daarvoor aanvaar. Dieselfde geld vir ons ondersteuningspersoneel en ons is reeds die afgelope vyf jaar sonder 'n Departementele sekretaresse. Ons is, soos gewoonlik, proaktief en verseker dat ons skool 100% funksioneel is. Om eerlik te wees, dit is slegs moontlik omdat ouers skoolfooie betaal. Ja, dit is die regte ding om te doen, MAAR dit is ook die enigste manier om 'n toekoms vir ons kinders te verseker. Baie dankie aan al die ouers wat skoolfooie betaal en diegene wat met finansies worstel, moet asseblief protokol volg en mev Hart kontak. Ons het begrip en ons help graag, MAAR ons weet ook dat ons skoolfooie nodig het om die skool op koers te hou. Baie dankie vir u begrip.

Hoekom wil soveel ouers hul kinders in Sunridge plaas? Waarom is hulle bereid om ons skoolfooie te betaal? Daar is soveel skole soos ons met dieselfde belange, maar ons is verskillend vanweë ons deernis, lojaliteit en fokus op ons kinders. Dit is wat ons onderwysers aanspoor en motiveer om die ekstra myl te loop. Beslis nie die salaris en ondersteuning van owerhede en instansies wat as rolspelers in onderwys gesien en erken wil word nie.

Onderwyspersoneel, onderwysersassistente, fasiliteerders, ondersteuningspersoneel en studente wat hulself befonds en deur die SBL aangestel is, het minder voordele, maar is steeds lojaal en kan vertrou word om die ekstra myl met u kind te stap. Ja, ons is ook geseënd met Departementele personeel wat dieselfde waardes in hul roeping nastreef en diens ver bo die gemiddelde lewer.

U moet met ander oë na ons kyk, u moet sien wat ons doen en u moet bid dat al hoe meer onderwysers hierdie paadjie gaan stap, want dit word 'n uitgediende wyse om skole en die onderwys te dien en bestuur.

Die aanslag op hierdie waardegedrewe stelsel is fel en op vele maniere binne politieke beroering versluier. Dit is ook vir die meeste skole 'n manier om hul onvermoë om waardegedrewe bestuur en onderrig ongeag omstandighede te lewer, te verdoesel. Dis maklik om te vergeet hoeveel ongelooflike harde werk en lang ure dit geverg het om ons skool op die huidige vlak te bring, in stand te hou en uit te brei. Ons is oneindige dank aan ons ouers en gemeenskap verskuldig.

Niks op aarde is gratis nie: harde werk, onvoorwaardelike ondersteuning, struikelblokke wat oorwin moet word, betaal van skool-fooie of ondersteuning d.m.v. borgskappe, donasies of kundigheid – dit is die ruggraat van funksionele onderrig.

Ons steier nie net onder die aanslag van Covid-19 nie, maar ook onder korrupsie en 'n onbeheerbare drang van sommige mense om ons lewering van waardegedrewe onderrig te verwoes. Ons as gemeenskap moet selfs sterker opstaan om die toekoms van ons kinders te verseker. Ons moet daarop fokus om ons personeel en die kwaliteit wat hulle na ons skool bring, te beskerm en ondersteun.

Bly asseblief veilig en dra ons skool in gebed op. Leef eerder eenvoudig as om net te leef!

Sonskyngroete
M de Vries
Skoolhoof

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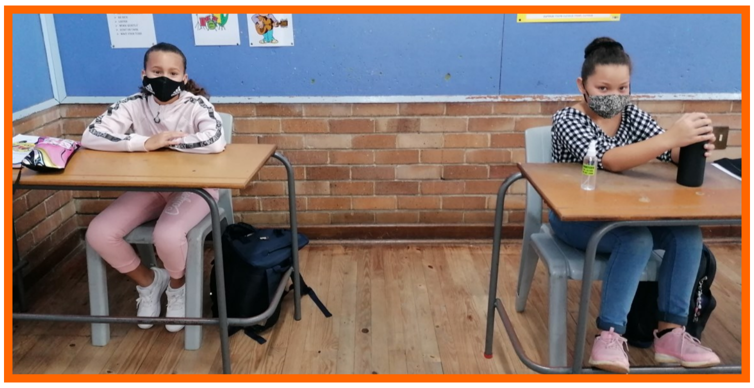
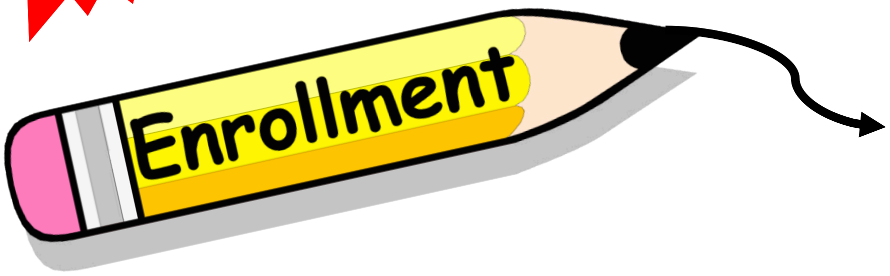


PLEASE APPLY NOW FOR SIBLINGS FOR 2022



2022

ENROLLMENTS FOR SIBLINGS ONLY ARE NOW OPEN

- Please download the application form from the school website (www.sunridge.co.za) .
- Complete the forms and attach all the relevant certified documentation
- Deliver the hard copy to school
- Applications with missing documentation will not be considered.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 31 MARCH 2021

ALL OTHER APPLICATIONS OPEN ON 1 MARCH 2021