



# RAND PREPARATORY AND COLLEGE NPC

74 Sixth Avenue  
Bezuidenhout Valley  
2094  
Telephone: (011) 618-3331/2  
Web Site: [www.randschools.co.za](http://www.randschools.co.za)

PO Box 66211  
Broadway  
2020  
Fax: (011) 624-2420  
e-mail: [info@randschools.co.za](mailto:info@randschools.co.za)

5 January 2023

## NEWSLETTER NO 1 OF 2023

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the staff, I would like to extend a happy new year to our parents and learners. We pray and hope that this year will be a good year for everyone. I trust that you all have enjoyed a very welcome rest over the December period and that all our parents who celebrated Christmas, had a joyous occasion.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new parents and learners. Welcome to our family and I hope that you will have a happy stay with us.

### SCHOOL REOPENS NEXT WEEK

I would like to confirm that school will reopen next week. From Monday, 9 January, our administrative staff will be back at school. The teachers will also return on Monday, however they will be engaged in meetings and planning so that we can start working with the children from day one.

The children will return to school on Wednesday, 11 January as scheduled.

**All new learners (from Grade 8 to 11)** as well as the Grade 12 Prefects will attend an orientation day on Tuesday, 10 January. All learners involved in the orientation will need to be at school by 8:30 and they will complete the programme by 13:00. Please could all parents of learners attending ensure that their children have a packed lunch as the tuckshop will not be open on that day. The new learners may attend wearing civvies; however, all prefects must be dressed in correct school uniform.

Grade 9 learners may also negotiate the sale of their second-hand text books with the Grade 8's.

### WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the following staff members who join our team this year:

#### 1. Mr Gora – Head of Department FET Phase

- a. Mr Gora will teach Physical Science and Mathematics Grades 10 to 12
- b. Mr Gora is not a new face to Rand and we welcome him back to the Rand Family

## **2. Ms Ndlovu – English Home language Grades 10 to 12**

- a. Ms Ndlovu holds a number of degrees, including Honours in Linguistics.
- b. Ms Ndlovu has achieved 100% pass rates in English home language across a number of curricula, including the CAPS and Cambridge systems.

We wish these new staff members much success and happiness and a long stay at Rand.

### **DRESS CODE**

All children will be required to wear school uniform to school each day. We take pride in the appearance of our children. Our policy remains that for the first transgression, children are given a warning. If they repeat this transgression, parents will be called and asked to bring the correct uniform to school for their child.

Please take note that we ask parents to “inspect” their child’s appearance before they leave for school. If you, as parent, are not happy, then make them put on the correct uniform.

On days when children have Physical Education, they are expected to arrive at school in uniform, then change into PE clothes, and after PE to change back into uniform. The wearing of tracksuits to school is not allowed.

### **TIMETABLES**

Children will be issued with new timetables on Wednesday, 11 January. These timetables must be followed each day.

### **LOCKERS**

The school has a number of lockers that children may hire for the term or year. Mrs Thorburn will discuss these aspects with the children and the cost to rent a locker. Children are urged to use these especially where school bags are heavy.

### **SCHOOL START AND ENDING TIMES**

A reminder that school starts at 07:50 and ends at 14:30. Parents, we need your assistance with ensuring that children arrive at school punctually. This is a very important part of training your child for adult life. We need to inculcate the culture and ethos in our learners that it shows huge disrespect to a fellow person if you are late as you are not respecting the other person’s time. This applies in everyday life including lessons or meetings.

### **COMMUNICATION CHANNELS**

It is very important for us to maintain open communication channels with our parents. Please note that the first line of communication should always be between the parent and the teacher concerned. A list of all the teacher’s email addresses will be circulated shortly.

The second line of communication occurs when you as parents feel you need to escalate a matter to the head of departments.

Mrs Byrne is the HOD in charge of Grade 8 and 9 matters. She can be contacted on [lbyrne@randschools.co.za](mailto:lbyrne@randschools.co.za)

Mr Gora is the HOD in charge of Grades 10, 11 and 12. He can be contacted on [mgora@randschools.co.za](mailto:mgora@randschools.co.za)

If your child is experiencing an issue relating to his or her relationship towards other learners or towards the staff, you can contact either of the HOD's and we will arrange for intervention.

Should you still have a matter that requires further attention, or a serious matter that you would like to speak to me about, please feel free to contact me on [bharris@randschools.co.za](mailto:bharris@randschools.co.za) or you may schedule an appointment with Mrs Wyer on 011-618-3331.

### **TEEN DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE**

One of the negative aspects that emerged post COVID, has been the increase in the number of Teenagers that experience depression and have suicidal thoughts. This is something that has emerged across the world and is very worrying for parents and educators alike.

This year, I will be arranging interventions from a number of sources to equip our teenagers to deal with feelings of depression and suicidal thoughts. We will engage with a number of NGO's that will hopefully, provide information and support to our children. Hopefully, we will emerge from this with children that are mentally well equipped to deal with part of mental health.

### **WORK FORECASTS**

It is our school's policy to provide forecasts of the work that your child will cover each week. This is to assist children who may be ill to keep up with the work covered in class. It is a way for you as parents to be aware of work that is set so that children cannot come home and say we "didn't do any work today". It is indeed very rare for us to have a day where no work is covered.

I also want to state clearly that we commence work from day 1 of the term and we teach up to and including the last day of each term.


### **SCHOOL FEES**

A reminder to parents that school fees are due for payment before the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.

In our next newsletter, I will provide a detailed term programme along with the cycle test schedule. We will also look how parents can connect to the school's Ed-Admin App so that you can monitor your child's academic progress in real time.

At this juncture, I would like to wish you and your family a successful 2023!

Yours sincerely



**Mr B Harris**  
**Executive Headmaster**