



BPS NEWS ISSUE 4/2017

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

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Dates to Diarise

For more Term 2 dates please visit the D6 Communicator

7—15 June: June Test and Exam Week: Gr 4 –7
 7—15 June: School dismissed for all learners at 13:20
 7—15 June: No extra-murals besides Poetry Club
 16 June: Youth Day (School closed)
 19—23 June: Last Week of extra-murals unless communicated by coach or teacher
 26/27 June: Eid ul Fitr
 26 June: Sports Photographs
 29 June: Parent-Teacher interviews by invite only
 30 June: End of 2nd Term—School dismissed at 11:00 for learners

Dear Parents

Two important issues have been raised during the past few weeks, namely Anti-Bullying and Child Protection awareness. In the light of all of this, we would like to reflect on Anti-Bullying Awareness. Bullying makes the headlines almost daily. We would like to unpack the definition of bullying and then look at Bullying vs Conflict:

So what is Bullying?: *Bullying is the inappropriate use of power by an individual or group, with the intent to injure either physically or emotionally, i.e. physical or psychological (verbal or non-verbal). It is usually deliberate and most importantly repetitive.*

The 4 common types of Bullying are: Physical (hitting, etc.); Verbal; Social/Relational & Cyber Bullying.

Conflict: *Conflict is a disagreement or a difference of opinion or interest between equals. Those involved in a conflict may disagree and emotions may run high. In conflict, both parties have the power to influence the situation and that is their goal. Conflict may be an inevitable part of group or peer dynamics, but bullying is not.*

Very often at school, conflict situations arise between learners, but we tend to say "My child is being bullied." I think it is vitally important to distinguish between the two, as often emotions run high between various parties, which causes greater issues.

As a school, we take a firm stand against bullying behaviour. We also have a problem box, where learners can express themselves. This is emptied regularly and the issues are dealt with. As part of our policy, we strongly discourage parents from "tackling" other children who they perceive to be bullying their child. Instead contact the school and please don't take the law into your own hands. With regards to Cyber Bullying, please check your children's cell-phones regularly, monitor the "chats" that they are having with friends. Encourage them not to say negative or nasty things, as this often leads to unnecessary conflict in the playground the next day. We have asked an independent service provider to do an assessment of our policy and the campaigns we ran last year, to judge their relevance and effectiveness. We will receive this feedback shortly and the outcomes will be communicated in the next newsletter.

This year our focus is on being a BPS Superhero. This does not mean that children have to wear a cape and have x-ray vision. They are to be kind, are encouraged to practise and display good manners, be helpful and most importantly, show the necessary respect. This we believe will go a long way towards raising the healthy, confident children, with good self-esteem, we wish to see within our school and communities.

BPS WISH ALL OUR MUSLIM FAMILIES, LEARNERS AND FRIENDS A HAPPY AND HOLY MONTH OF RAMADAN



ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOLADES FOR BPS LEARNERS THIS TERM

WORLD SCHOLARS CUP:

23 May 2017: Nine of our Grade 7 learners had the opportunity to participate in the World Scholars' Cup held at DF Malan High School on Sunday 21 May and Monday 22 May 2017. Our learners did extremely well, winning many medals and trophies in the various categories of debating, collaborative writing and academic challenges. They have qualified for a Global Round to be held in Athens, Hanoi or Cape Town later this year. Well done to all our learners, we are super proud of you!



CAPE TOWN CHOIR EISTEDDFOD

Our Junior and Senior Choirs sang beautifully and were awarded 1st place with Diploma at the recent Cape Town Eisteddfod held at Sea Point Civic on Saturday, 20 May 2017. The Senior Choir was invited to sing at the Prizegiving at Sea Point Civic on Sunday, 28 May. We are extremely proud of this outstanding achievement. Well done to our choir mistress, Mrs Smal and our accompanist, Mrs Gordon.



CAPE TOWN EISTEDDFOD: ETHAN SOLOMON

Ethan Solomon participated in the Cape Town Eisteddfod. He received the Darter's Medal for the highest marks scored in the 12 years and under for the guitar section at the Cape Town Eisteddfod. This is an awesome achievement and we are very proud of Ethan. Keep strumming your guitar, young man!



LITERATURE EISTEDDFOD

We submitted 32 entries into the Literature Eisteddfod this term: Here is the breakdown of how the learners fared. Once we have the official certificates, they will be handed out at assembly. We are very proud of our learners results. We will continue to enter their work in other competitions later in the year.

Merit (70-74%) =	3
High merit (75-79%) =	7
Honours (80-84%) =	14
High Honours (85-89%) =	7
Diploma (90+%) =	1

MEADOWRIDGE LIBRARY COMPETITION

A few of our Grade 7 Learners participated in a Reading Challenge against other neighbouring schools, organised by the Meadowridge Library. Our learners did exceptionally well, with Zainab Davis winning the Afrikaans section and Kate Murtagh the English section. What an achievement by our learners!



DERBY DAY FUN

Our Annual Derby Day was a rip-roaring success, with all who participated having great fun in the beautiful Autumn weather. The lucky draw took place in the afternoon, with many hoping to win the prizes on offer. Our lucky draw winners were: 1st Prize—Xbox 360: Lucinda Davids; 2nd Prize—Acer Cloudbook: Mr L Snyman; 3rd Prize—Samsung Printer: H Bergstedt and 4th Prize—Hamper: Tamara Simpson. Congratulations to all our winners, and a huge BPS THANK YOU to everybody who contributed to the success of the day. BPS appreciates your support!!



LIVING OUT OUR MOTTO—SERVIMUS

We had a successful charity drive this term. Learners were given bags to fill with used clothing, toys and other goods. These were collected by the Help the Rural Child Charity, which they will sell in their shops. There was an amazing response and of the promised civvies day will follow in due course. Your kindness and generosity is always appreciated and helps us to be a school community caring for humanity.



BPS ACCESS CONTROL: REMINDER

With the autumn chill in the air and the sun rising later, there is the tendency to wrap up tightly under our warm blankets or to hit the snooze button for a few more minutes. However, please be reminded that the school day starts at 07:45 for all learners from Grade R -7. This is the first bell of the day.

The learners need to settle and be organised before the second bell goes at 07:55, which signals the start of the 1st period of the day. All children should be in class by this time.

Should you be late for whatever reason, please do not walk your child to class, then try and explain to the teacher why you are late. This creates disruption and upsets the routine of the day, not just for the teacher, but the other children already settled in class. Please let children walk in by themselves, or if you are uncertain, leave them at reception, and the staff will ensure your child gets to class without too much fanfare. This also helps us with our security, as we then don't have people in the building, when they should not be there. Please note, there should be no parents in the school building from 7:45, unless you have a prior appointment with your child's teacher, or visiting the Uniform Shop. Your cooperation in this regard will be greatly appreciated.

PLEASE OBEY THE RULES OF THE ROAD

With our school being situated in a residential area, Bergvliet Primary has always endeavoured to be good neighbours especially to those who live around us. Traffic congestion has increased over the years, and I'm sure it has started to impact on our frustrations, especially in the morning. However, we are sure that the biggest frustration is when other motorists don't obey the rules of the road.



Around the school we are having problems with some of our parents making U-turns where they are not supposed to, parking on the red or yellow lines, stopping on the pedestrian crossing and letting their children jump out in places where they cross the busy road at intersections, as opposed to using the pedestrian and scholar patrol crossings. Our learners' safety is always of paramount importance to us. Please help us keep them safe by obeying the rules of the road. Most importantly, our children learn from their first teachers, their parents, so if we are role-modelling the incorrect behaviour then we cannot complain when our children also display incorrect behaviour. Your co-operation in this regard will be hugely appreciated.

COMMUNICATION PLATFORMS AT BPS

Please be reminded to download the D6 School Communicator, which is available in the App store for Apple, the Play Store for Android, as well as for Microsoft platforms. It can also be downloaded from the D6 website for desktop computers. Please select Bergvliet Primary School and follow the prompts. If you already have the D6 Communicator installed, please remember to roll over your groups and grades which you are subscribed for, otherwise you may miss vital communication from the school. If your cell phone number or e-mail address has changed, please as a matter of urgency contact the front office or e-mail secretary@bergvlietprimary.co.za or bshaban@bergvlietprimary.co.za so that we can update your details. Sometimes we need to get hold of parents or guardians urgently and most frustratingly we are unable to do so, as we have the incorrect or outdated details loaded on our admin system.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT BPS

We are in desperate need of volunteers to assist our dedicated team of staff at our Recycling Depot, Tuckshop, Library, Uniform Shop and assisting with reading in the Foundation Phase. If you are able to help out for even one hour a day, it will certainly assist us with these vital services to our school community. Grannies and Grandpas are most welcome! Please contact the office and hand in your name.

