

# BPS MONTHLY NEWS

## FINAL EDITION 2020



### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents and Guardians

As you read this, we will have come to the end of our 2020 school year. This year BPS celebrated 70 years of educational excellence. We all anticipated a joyous 12 months, filled with special events. However, none of us could ever have imagined what a catastrophic turn our lives would take in a very short space of time. Covid-19 had a devastating impact on every aspect of human interaction. Despite the myriad challenges, the BPS school community persevered, proving that our Superheroes don't wear capes, they wear masks. It is only fitting for me to thank the people whose hard work and dedication played a pivotal role during 2020.

I wish to acknowledge every staff member in every department of our school who, using their skills and talents, contributed to the greater good of our organisation. I am certainly blessed to work alongside such remarkable individuals, whose servant hearts are committed to enhancing the lives of the learners in their care. This was even more apparent during the trials and tribulations of Covid-19.

Thank you to our School Governing Body members, who worked tirelessly on behalf of the rest of the parent body. We thank Mr. Young, Mr. Freese, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Baumgart and Mr. Williams for their expert guidance and for always putting the interests of Bergvliet Primary first. They sacrificed time and effort to realise our shared vision for BPS. We applaud them! I also wish to thank Mr. Ralph Freese, who will be vacating his seat on the SGB at this time, as his daughter moves on to High School in 2021. As treasurer of our SGB, he managed our financial affairs with consummate skill, and we wish him and his family every success going forward.

To all our parents, a heartfelt thanks for your continued commitment to BPS, for your belief in this school and for your unflinching support in all areas. Despite the physical distancing necessitated by the Covid-19 protocols, you remained close in spirit and embraced the digital learning platforms wholeheartedly. Throughout the Lockdown, your positive feedback to educators was a welcome reminder that our labours were not in vain. For this, and so much more, we are truly grateful. Without the invaluable support of our parent body, the extraordinary would have been impossible.

A special farewell to our Grade Sevens: May you take with you all the lessons, life skills and values which have been taught to you over the years at BPS. Wherever you go, may your light continue to shine brightly, may you spread the Bergvliet Primary joie de vivre to all with whom you come into contact, and may you make a difference in the world, wherever you may be. You will no doubt experience challenges as you venture forth, but how you deal with potential obstacles and stumbling blocks will define your character. Make the most of the new opportunities that will arise at High School, and always remember to be the best YOU that you can be. We wish you every success and happiness in the years ahead. We will continue to chart your progress and look forward to seeing you at your reunion in 5 years' time.

In closing, my fervent hope is that we will continue to grow #StrongerTogether. May our motto, "Servimus", remain our guiding principle, and may we always be inspired to create extra-ordinary blessings. We wish you and your loved ones a wonderful holiday and renewed hope for all in the new year. If you observe the feast of Christmas, may the season bring much love, joy and hope. Please keep safe and continue to practise the 5 Golden Rules.

Mr. Paulse

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## FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BPS SGB

2020 has brought about many challenges and heartache to all of us and our hearts go out to all the families who have suffered much loss during this year. As a school community, BPS has shown much resilience and has risen above all challenges. Under trying circumstances, the teachers and staff have been magnificent in ensuring the continued learning of all BPS kids as well as maintaining high safety standards. Teachers were selfless and sacrificed so much family time for the learners.



The COVID 19 pandemic caught the entire world off guard and BPS was no exception. The management and school governing body needed to make some really tough decisions, a very difficult task due to the uncertainty and lack of precedent.

I would like to thank Mr. Paulse, the management team as well as the governing body for their tireless and remarkable efforts during the year. A special acknowledgement must go to Mr. Ralph Freeze (Treasurer), who after serving on the SGB for a number of years, has his youngest moving on to high school. Thank you Ralph. We hope that we can still call on your expertise in the future.

I would like thank all our wonderful parents for their efforts, without which, BPS would not be in the secure position that it currently finds itself. Because of the continued support of our loyal parents we have been fortunate to retain our full staff compliment. Your unwavering support is truly appreciated and my plea is that we continue to work together, parents, SGB and staff, to ensure that we not only maintain our excellent standards but also grow from strength to strength.

Mr. Gavin Young  
Chairperson of the BPS SGB

## STAFF FAREWELLS

At the end of this tumultuous year, we bid farewell to staff members Mrs Gail Williams (Gr4W), as well as Mr Gapad, Mrs Arendse, Ms C Southgate and Ms C Schafer, who have served as Learnerships at BPS.



Mrs Williams leaves Bergvliet Primary after almost 31 years of sterling service to our school. She has been a stalwart throughout this time, delivering high quality education to generations of learners, and making a difference in the lives of all with whom she came into contact. We will never forget the magic she created with our Poetry and Drama and Creative Writing Clubs, producing award-winning items showcased at various Eisteddfods. We wish her good health as she enters her well-deserved retirement. Enjoy the next chapter in your journey, Mrs Williams — you will be sorely missed!

We wish to thank each of our Learnerships for their commitment, enthusiasm and service to BPS, and for enriching the lives of our learners, parents and staff. I'm sure that every child who has interacted with these wonderful individuals can echo the words of Bindi Irwin, who said, "So many people have touched my heart and made an impact on my world. I'm thankful for every lesson and learning experience." We wish them every happiness and success in their future endeavours.



## SCHOOL TERMS 2021

Term	Opens	Closes
First	(25) 27 January	31 March
Second	13 April	25 June
Third	13 July	23 September
Fourth	05 October	(08) 10 December

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2021

**DATE**

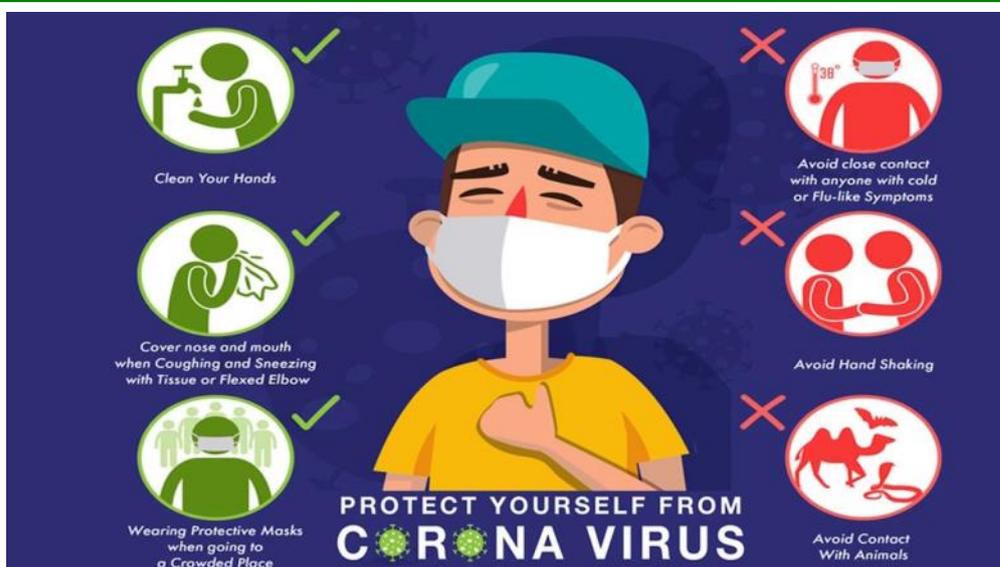
01 January  
 21 March  
 22 March  
 02 April  
 05 April  
 26 April  
 27 April  
 01 May  
 16 June  
 09 August  
 10 August  
 24 September  
 16 December  
 25 December  
 26 December

**TITLE**

New Year's Day  
 Human Rights Day  
 School Holiday  
 Good Friday  
 Family Day  
 School Holiday  
 Freedom Day  
 Workers' Day  
 Youth Day  
 National Women's Day  
 Public Holiday  
 Heritage Day  
 Day of Reconciliation  
 Christmas Day  
 Day of Goodwill

## UNIFORM SHOP TIME—JANUARY 2021

The **SCHOOL CLOTHING SHOP** will be open for purchases on:  
 Saturday, 23 January from 09.00 – 12.00 and Monday 25 January to Friday 29 January from 9:00—12:00 daily  
 Covid-19 screening protocols and regulations will apply.



## WOOLWORTHS AND MY SCHOOL CARD:

Thank you to all family and friends who continue to swipe their MYSCHOOL card and have BPS as a beneficiary. Every swipe helps BPS, no matter how big or small. Please swipe during the holidays. If you need a new card, please contact Mrs Bettie Shaban who will gladly assist you.



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<https://www.facebook.com/BergvlietPrimarySchool/> &  
[www.bergvlietprimary.co.za](http://www.bergvlietprimary.co.za)

## LEARNER ACHIEVEMENTS:

It was wonderful to celebrate our learners during challenging times. Many of our BPS learners entered the Quinthathlon Logical Thinking Challenge earlier this year and have been awarded certificates for their achievements. Here are some of the BPS top achievers who won Gold certificates and medals for results over 85%. Special recognition goes to our medal winners who gained results of over 90%, with Jessica Uhuba being awarded a Gold Medal and first place in Grade 7 in South Africa, for her result of 97%! We are very proud of all our participants and their achievements! Congratulations for taking on this challenge, BPS!



## GO WELL—GRADE 7 CLASS OF 2020

