



BERGVLIET PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHILDRENS WAY BERGVLIET 7945 TEL: (021) 715 1103 FAX: (021) 715 24 86
EMAIL: secretary@bergvlietprimary.co.za WEBSITE: www.bergvlietprimary.co.za

BPS NEWSFLASH - 07 of 2021 03 June 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians

We trust that you are all safe and well, and keeping hope alive in these turbulent times.

Vaccinations for Citizens over 60 years old

Last week, the Dept of Health addressed the Western Cape Principals with regard to Covid-19 and the vaccination rollout in our province. We need to encourage all our citizens, aged 60 years and older, to register for the vaccination. Please share the following link with family and friends, as it is vital that all vulnerable citizens be vaccinated as soon as possible. <https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/>

Latest Gazetted Regulations:

The latest Gazetted regulations affecting schooling were published on Friday. (Government Gazette No: 44633 - Vol 671) According to these, contact sport and matches, as well as choir rehearsals and performances have been suspended until further notice. This Gazette also indicates that all primary school learners (Gr R – 7) must return to school by 26 July 2021. How this will impact the handful of learners currently making use of the comorbidity concessions, will only be clarified once the WCED releases further regulations.

Staffing News:

In Newsflash 06, we reported that there must be something in the water at BPS this year, as four staff members will be adding to their families during the course of 2021. We have just received news that a fifth staff member, Ms. Natalee Gardner (Gr. 3G), is due to give birth in November this year. We congratulate her and wish her all the best. I am now convinced that the sanitiser we are using has interesting side effects! The process to appoint Mrs. Horsley and Mrs. Reay's maternity substitutes is well underway. Announcements will be made in due course.

We are very pleased to announce that Mrs. Elsa Hector (Gr 6H), has been seconded to the WCED Metro South Education District, as a Language Curriculum Advisor. This is a wonderful opportunity for Mrs. Hector, as well as a feather in our cap at BPS. It is great to know that our teachers are sought after. It also allows Mrs. Hector the opportunity to make a wider impact in a broader setting, making a difference across the Education District. Mr. Bevan Barnard, well known to the BPS family, will be taking charge of Mrs. Hector's class until her return to BPS.

Code of Conduct and Absenteeism from School

After the letter sent home last week, in which we outlined the importance of adherence to the BPS Code of Conduct, we received numerous queries around the issue of learner absenteeism. Specifically, parents were unclear as to the guidelines pertaining to the necessity of a Doctor's certificate.

The official WCED Guidelines indicate clearly that the school requires communication from the parent when the learner is unable to attend school, or written confirmation by a registered medical practitioner or traditional healer if the illness lasts for longer than three days. **The key word is communication.**



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If your child is absent because they are displaying Covid-19 or flu-like symptoms, then it is important that the class teacher or the office is informed. As parents and guardians we know our children well, and can recognise the signs of allergies as opposed to serious illness. Before the pandemic, we certainly did not send ill children to school, knowing that to do so would affect the other learners. We therefore request that this same common sense approach be used at this time. Please make a considered decision when keeping learners home, as the amount of teaching time lost is a factor. If your child is indeed ill and displaying symptoms as per the screening protocols done at home, then parents are advised to apply their own discretion. Educators cannot be expected to make the decision once the learner arrives at school.

Winter Uniform

Thank you for your patience and understanding with regard to the lack of stock. We have now received fleece tops, track pants and shirts. Unfortunately, due to a nationwide dearth of khaki material, the winter trousers have not yet arrived. A reminder that the Uniform Shop is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 07:15 – 08:30 and on Thursday from 13:00 – 15:00. As per current regulations, parents must be screened and maintain social distancing whilst waiting in the queue.

Re-aligned Term 2 Extra-Mural Programme

The re-aligned Term 2 Extra-mural programme kicked off this week. No contact sports are allowed, which impacts Netball, Soccer and Hockey. However, our coaches will focus on improving skills and overall fitness. All the Covid-19 protocols will be adhered to and masks are mandatory. Learners may wear the correct sports uniform on the day of their sport extra-mural.

Soapbox Fun Day

A huge thank you to all who supported and helped get our learners into the spirit of Soapbox Fun Day. Fun was certainly had by learners and staff alike. A little bit of “normality” certainly warmed our hearts last week. The money raised will help to offset the cost of the perspex screens procured earlier this year.

School Terms 2022:

The Minister of Basic Education, has just Gazetted the Term dates for 2022. They have staggered Inland and Coastal provinces starting times. The dates for the Coastal Provinces are as follows

Term	Start of Term	End of Term	No of Weeks
One	17 (19 learners) January	25 March	10
Two	05 April	24 June	12
Three	19 July	30 September	11
Four	11 October	14 (15 Educators) December	10



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Covid19 Protocol Reminders: Reminders:

- Parents and caregivers are reminded that wearing of masks are mandatory in public and to social distance whilst waiting outside the gates.
- Masks must be worn over the nose and mouth and must fit correctly. No buffs allowed.
- No birthday treats are currently allowed to be sent from home to be shared with the class and teachers. As enjoyable as it is, unfortunately it poses unnecessary risks to the school community.
- Learners are reminded to have a cloth to wipe their surfaces and to keep a spare masks in the eventuality of masks snapping, etc. These must be kept in a ziplock bag

Start of day and Dismissal Times:

Please note that the dismissal times have been readjusted to avoid unnecessary congestion and bottlenecking at the various gates. **Please note that this change will come into effect as from Monday, 07 June 2021. It is imperative that learners are collected timeously to avoid unnecessary congestion.** The School day starts at 07:50. Please make every effort to get your child to school before 07:50. It is extremely disruptive for teachers and the children when learners are trickling in when teaching and learning has started.

*If running late, please drop at the Childrens Way Gate, as all other gates close at 07:55.
Siblings can enter at the same gate, to avoid traffic congestion.*

GRADE	GATES OPEN FOR SCREENING	School Starting Time	ENTRANCE AND EXIT FOR LEARNERS	DISMISSAL TIME Mon – Thurs	DISMISSAL TIME Friday
R	7:15 – 7:50	7:50	Alphen Road Gate	13:05	12:50
1	7:15 – 7:50	7:50	Alphen Road Gate	13:15	13:00
2	7:15 – 7:50	7:50	Alphen Road ASC Gate	13:15	13:00
3	7:15 – 7:50	7:50	Alphen Road ASC Gate	14:30	13:10
3	7:15 – 7:50	7:50	Alphen Road ASC Gate	Thurs: 13:25	13:10
4	7:15 – 7:50	7:50	Childrens Way Gate	14:30	13:00
5	7:15 – 7:50	7:50	Childrens Way ASC Gate	14:30	13:00
6	7:15 – 7:50	7:50	Childrens Way ASC Gate	14:40	13:10
7	7:15 – 7:50	7:50	Childrens Way Gate	14:40	13:10

Please take care, keep safe and remember to apply the Five Golden Rules daily.

Sincere regards

MR BLP PAULSE