



# HATFIELD

## @SCHOOL *(and home)*



Newsletter #26 Friday, 14 August 2020

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Dear Parents

Well it's day 144 today and I wonder how you are doing. As I reflect on leading a school in one of the longest lockdowns in the world I am so impressed by our community who, for the most part, are doing so well under adverse conditions.

I am however increasingly concerned about the emotional and academic wellness of some pupils. In this time where many feel so out of control, we notice that there can be two extreme reactions to this loss of control:

1. To feel so overwhelmed that one opts out and therefore underperforms OR
2. In order to regain control, one over functions (which too, can be damaging)

My concern at this stage is for those who appear to be opting out and are lagging behind. We are urging the following:

- If children are staying at home, there is a responsibility for parents to ensure that children are engaging and handing in work. The teacher's hands are tied where children are home and going off the radar.
- In the HS we will be centralizing the function of chasing up missing work as the task is proving too time consuming for teachers who are teaching both online and on campus. In order to increase accountability, we will mail parents and copy pupils into the mail
- It is distressing and concerning for teachers where engagement on google meets is low. Please help us by insisting that your child attends meets and turns their camera on. If data is a problem, please ensure that they turn it on when a teacher speaks to them.

Please understand that we are here to work with you and are fully committed to offer the best education that we can. We deem each child as valuable and precious and are so willing to engage with you on any concerns that you have.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2021

Last week we announced our Student Leader group for 2021 and were then able to announce that Kristy Lowe will be our Head Girl and Aidan Paveley our Head Boy. Following that, we communicated via zoom on Thursday afternoon that the:

- Deputy Head Boy is **Kadin Barber** and
- Deputy Head Girl is **Dominique Crafford**

As you know, we are actively consulting with students around the matters of racism and diversity. We want to have a diverse representation in our core leadership and need the inputs from a variety of students. For the next leadership season, we will be having a special portfolio dedicated to Transformation and Belonging. These positions will be filled by Nathan Julius and Thando Dladla. In the democratic vote they were the next two names selected by the pupils and staff and therefore have the overwhelming support of the school community.

When Mr Pienaar meets weekly with the Heads of School, he will meet with these six students as much of what we will be engaging on will be the matters of transformation and belonging. The pupils are aware that their leadership is about serving and helping the school meet its God-given mandate. These are the needs of the upcoming year and we will navigate and decide about the following leadership season when that time comes.

We think that together they will make a wonderful team and trust that they will be strongly supported by our Student Leaders, matrices and the rest of the school



## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

We are going ahead with school photographs as we would like the children to have some sort of memento of this year. We will take individual photographs only and all social distancing requirements will be met. From these individual photographs we will create composite class photos.

We are able to ensure the services of our photographer on two days and even then will need to ask some classes to come in specially for photographs:

Wed 19 August	Jacobs Ladder, Gr 0, 1, 2, 4, 5 E1, 5 E2, 8, 10 & 11
Thurs 20 August	Gr 3, 6, 9, 11
Thurs 20 August	We regret that we will especially need to ask Gr 5 Db and Gr 7 pupils working at home to come in between 11:00 and 12:00 if they would like photographs taken. Parents will be asked to wait in the carpark for their children.

## ELEVATE EDUCATION BRINGS YOU ANOTHER FREE PARENT WEBINAR

Event Title: Elevate Education – Independent Learning Skills

Date: Wednesday, 19th August

Time: 6 pm SAST

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: Free

[Reserve your seat](#)

## TUCK SHOP

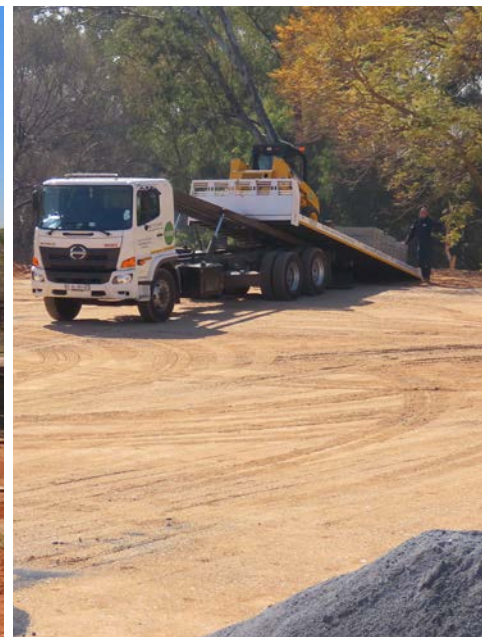
Herewith the link for tuckshop for this week <https://forms.gle/7T9g1w5j3izytWNL9>

Trusting that you have a good weekend!

With kind regards

*Graeme Holloway*  
Executive Principal

## BUILDING UPDATE – TENNIS COURTS





**A HUGE THANK YOU TO  
ALL OUR PUPILS WHO  
PROVIDED US WITH FUN  
AND LAUGHTER AND TO  
THEIR PARENTS FOR ALL  
THE MORAL AND  
TECHNICAL SUPPORT!**

# **SP TALENT SHOW!**

**CATCH UP THIS  
WEEKEND IN THE  
GOOGLE MUSIC  
CLASSES!**

