



Three Schools, One Campus

5 November 2021

Principal's Corner

Dear Theodorians

ARE WE REALLY
WAITING FOR A
RETURN TO
NORMAL OR ARE
WE READY TO
BUILD SOMETHING
different?

I liked this quote, as it does succinctly sum up our dilemma. The pandemic has caused a longing for most of us to return to our “old (and happy/familiar) way of life”, yet what if some of those ways were not that effective/efficient or did not cause “happiness”?

No - one is immune to the one fact that the pandemic **has taught** each of us many things - for each of us something different. We know that our children have been affected - socially, emotionally and in other ways that may not be known. As a school we need to be cognizant of this fact too. Intentionally mentoring and coaching our children in what has been a “foreign world.” Social skills and interaction, appropriate interaction in and use of the on-line space (read “WhatsApp groups”, Instagram etc.) forms part of our education. **There is an increasing trend of inappropriate use of these various platforms, and as parents and teachers, we need to work together ensure that healthy and appropriate interaction is maintained - as it should be in the “real world”.**



A return to the “normal” (whatever “normal” is to one) is good to see. The Primary School cricket match against Hermitage House,

as well as the upcoming tennis match against Hermitage House has been exciting to see. The fact that Theodor won is irrelevant! Ha ha. This Sunday, we have 32 children participating in a chess tournament hosted by our Primary School. Normal is good! Our Pre-Primary Orientation function next week on Thursday also promises to be an exciting event for parents...seeing what lies behind the gates! Allowing parents back in a covid-compliant way so that familiar spaces can be seen and where one's child spends many hours of the day is part of the return to normality.

All of our High School children will be in examination mode from this coming Monday. We wish them well. As reflected last week, Katie Ferrant and Mrs Niqui Cloete Barrass participated recently in the London Trinity Drama examination. Both achieved Distinctions. Next weekend, our Steel Bands participate in the International Eisteddfod Band competition - we will be sending out links in due course so that we can watch the performances. Exciting times!

We are in planning phase for next year - so expect communication in that regard in the weeks ahead!

I wish our Hindu families and friends a Happy Diwali!

I attended a meaningful Rosh Chodesh service in our Shul this morning. A significant day, it recognises first day of every month in the Hebrew calendar, marked by the birth of a new moon. It signifies the beginning of time of special prayers. I wish our Jewish families a month of good health and happiness.

The following article by Drew Hansen entitled, “how to help today's anxious kids prepare for a precarious future” is an insightful one. It is worth a read...for many reasons! The link is <https://link.medium.com/EIH2ZNMAVkb>

Given exam “fever”, I thought that the following article was also worth including...and reading. It is a different take on the traditional notion of **academic rigour**. <https://serendipities.blog/2021/10/28/if-it-aint-hurting-it-aint-working/amp/>

I wish you a good week ahead!

Viktor

Viktor Kurz
Executive Principal

Jewish Life

Our Jewish families welcomed Rosh Chodesh Kislev with prayers and singing in our Shul this morning.



Pre-Primary Fun

Our Theodorables watched their parents vote on Monday and then decided to vote for their favourite chocolate at school!



Fruit kebab fun at the Pre-Primary School.



Primary School Activities

Our young athletes did their absolute best today at the Grade 1 & 2 Sports Day. Well done Champs!



High School News

The Grade 8 & 9 Film Study pupils were rewarded at the Theodor Oscars for their hard work. A special Congratulations to Raphaela Berger who won Best Actress and Courteney Tendaupenyu who received the Best Supporting Actress Award.



Congratulations to the Grade 8 Best Actor, Elona Mcingana and Best Supporting Actress Sisanda Vantyi.

