



CBC ST JOHN'S PARKLANDS

28 January 2009

Dear Grade 3 Parents

A very warm welcome to you all. Mrs Naomi Muller will be teaching Grade 3M and Ms Lauren de Sa will be teaching Grade 3S. We trust you had a very blessed and relaxed Christmas and are ready for a very exciting and rewarding 2009.

- **School Times**

The school day begins promptly at 07:55 and finishes at 14:00. Please make sure your child is at school on time, correctly dressed and wearing their blazers.

- **Homework Diaries**

These books are an excellent means of communication, as well as a check to see if your child is coping with the workload expected during the school day. The homework diaries must be signed daily.

Please read through the Code of Conduct with your child and sign. You will find this at the beginning of the CBC diary.

- **Clothing**

Please label all items of clothing very clearly. Don't forget about the shoes!

All students must wear their PT togs to school on Mondays or Tuesdays. The summer PT attire is blue shorts, white school T-shirts, white socks and takkies. The tracksuit top needs to be worn to and from school. School caps are available from the office.

Blazers are to be worn to and from school with full uniforms on non-PT days. Always insist on a neat appearance.

- **Absenteeism**

Please phone the school on the day your child is absent and make sure you either send a doctor's certificate for more than two days absence or write an explanation of absence for our records.

- **Medication**

Any child needing medication must hand an explanatory note together with the medication at the start of the day.

- **Money**

All monies must be sent to school in a sealed envelope or a money bag. Please write your child's name, grade, amount and what the amount is for on the envelope.

- **Reading**

Reading homework will be given on a daily basis. It is your responsibility to ensure that your child practices their reading homework and is able to understand the text read. Please make sure that their reading files are signed.

- Spelling

Spelling will be done on Mondays using the VAK system, i.e. two columns will be done in class and the last column is to be completed at home. The first column is to be learnt at home for the test on Friday.

- Numeracy

We will continue with the Numeracy curriculum, however in Grade 3, a sound knowledge of the times tables is essential. Bonds need constant revision so each pupil will receive a booklet containing bonds and table exercises. Please ensure that your child completes the relevant exercises required of them.

- Tuck Shop

The Foundation Phase children are allowed Tuck-shop money on a Friday. Please limit the amount of money that your little one brings to school and remind them that Tuck-shop money is their responsibility.

Keep lunches healthy and ensure that your child has a hearty breakfast before school. Please also make sure your child has a good night's rest so that there are no sleepy heads during class!

- Sport

Extra-murals will be recommencing February 2nd. We encourage all of our students to participate in at least one summer/winter sport/cultural activity. Please make sure that your child attends all sporting practices wearing the correct uniform. It is highly recommended that you send sunscreen to school with your little one on the days that they have sport, so as to prevent any red faces.

- Finally always remember to use positive reinforcement with your child. Avoid using "Don't" or "No". Rather change these to positive statement. Above all your child should have fun and learn as much as possible while in Grade 3.



Dear Grade 3 Parents

A very warm welcome to you all. Mrs Naomi Muller will be teaching Grade 3M and Ms Lauren de Sa will be teaching Grade 3S. We trust you had a very blessed and relaxed Christmas and are ready for a very exciting and rewarding 2009.

- **Appointments**

If you have any concerns please feel free to come and make an appointment with me at the end of the meeting, I will then get back to you concerning an appropriate day and time.

- **School Times**

The school day begins promptly at 07:55 and finishes at 14:00. Please make sure your child is at school on time, correctly dressed and wearing their blazers. School will finish at 13:00 on a Friday.

- **Homework Diaries**

These books are an excellent means of communication, as well as a check to see if your child is coping with the workload expected during the school day. The homework diaries must be signed daily.

Please read through the Code of Conduct with your child and sign. You will find this at the beginning of the CBC diary.

- **Clothing**

Please label all items of clothing very clearly. Don't forget about the shoes!

Our classes PT days are on a Monday they therefore need to wear PT clothes to school on a Monday. The summer PT attire is blue shorts, white school T-shirts, white socks and takkies. The tracksuit top needs to be worn to and from school. School caps are available from the office.

Blazers are to be worn to and from school with full uniforms on non-PT days. Always insist on a neat appearance.

- **Absenteeism**

Please phone the school on the day your child is absent and make sure you either send a doctor's certificate for more than two days absence or write an explanation of absence for our records.

- **Medication**

Any child needing medication must hand an explanatory note together with the medication at the start of the day.

- **Money**

All monies must be sent to school in a sealed envelope or a money bag. Please write your child's name, grade, amount and what the amount is for on the envelope.

- **Reading**

Reading homework will be given on **three times a week**. It is your responsibility to ensure that your child practices their reading homework and is able to **understand** the text read. Please make sure that their reading files are signed. Every time your child receives Reading homework they are expected to read the required number of pages with understanding as well writing two questions concerning the text read. You as parents are allowed to help them when choosing a question to ask but please make sure that they write the questions themselves along with answers for both questions. They need to write their questions and answers in a full sentence.

The rest of the week we do either **silent reading** at their desks, **paired reading** or teacher directed reading. In this way they are getting accustomed to a **variety of text** and not only books of the Oxford Reading Scheme. We therefore encourage you as parents to join your local **library** and to read with you child every night. Please remember that children enjoy reading books based on what they are **interested in**, so if your child is not interested in reading a Horrid Henry book, why not try something different and ask them what they would enjoy reading and learning about.

- **Spelling**

Spelling will be done on Mondays using the VAK system, i.e. two columns will be done in class and the last column is to be completed at home. The first column is to be learnt at home for the test on Friday. Their VAK words should be taught in the following fashion: The first column is to be discussed



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with your child e.g. what sounds they can see inside the words, are there other words hiding inside the word, is the word a homophone, homonym etc. (have something special about it) if the words are difficult and your child is struggling to learn its spelling I encourage you to make a rhyme with them so as to help them remember the spelling. The second column is then asked in a different order, they then need to cover both the first and second column and write the third column in the same order as column one. They then need to memorise the words in no particular order.

- **Numeracy**

We will continue with the Numeracy curriculum, however in Grade 3, a sound knowledge of the times tables is essential. Bonds need constant revision so each pupil will receive a booklet containing bonds and table exercises, unfortunately Caxtons has informed us that we will only be getting these books at the end of February. Please ensure that your child completes the relevant exercises required of them. In Grade 3 we focus first on accuracy and then on speed, so no timing is required at first. You can however see more or less how long it takes your child to complete the relevant columns and then write the time on the top of the page, this way your child will be able to keep track and see if their time improves over the year.

- **Tuck Shop**

The Foundation Phase children are allowed Tuck-shop money on a Friday. Please limit the amount of money that your little one brings to school and remind them that Tuck-shop money is their responsibility.

Keep lunches healthy and ensure that your child has a hearty breakfast before school. Please also make sure your child has a good night's rest so that there are no sleepy heads during class!

- **Sport**

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Extra-murals will be recommencing February 2nd . We encourage all of our students to participate in at least one summer/winter sport/cultural activity. Please make sure that your child attends all sporting practices wearing the correct uniform. It is highly recommended that you send sunscreen to school with your little one on the day's that they have sport, so as to prevent any red faces. Please remind your child that if they have decided to participate in a specific sport in the first term, they have to participate in the same sport for the entire season. i.e fourth term.

- **Assessments**

There are two types of assessment that we work with in Grade 3

Formative assessments: These are conducted the whole year around, and consist of class work, tasks completed in class, group work.

Summative assessments: Are formal assessments and tests that are conducted at the end of a term and consist of a variety of Numeracy, Literacy and Lifeskills assessments, they are standardized assessments as well as which has been formulated by myself and Mrs Muller.

Finally always remember to use positive reinforcement with your child. Avoid using "Don't" or "No". Rather change these to positive statement. Above all your child should have fun and learn as much as possible while in Grade 3.