



# Manor Gardens Primary School

Newsletter No. 13

24 April 2018

**"When you go through hardships and decide not to surrender, THAT IS STRENGTH."  
- Mahatma Gandhi**

## DATES TO DIARISE

27 April	Public Holiday: Freedom Day
30 April	School Holiday
1 May	Public Holiday: Workers Day
4 May	Grade 1 Excursion to Umgeni Bird Park
9 May	Clifton School SP Choir Choral Music Festival: 18h00 – 19h00
16 May	Grade 2 Excursion to African Birds of Prey
21 May	Grade 7 Exams begin
29 May	Grade 7 Exams end
30 May - 1 June	Grade 7 Excursion to Anerly
5 June	World Environment Day
7 – 8 June	Grade 6 Excursion to Shongweni Spirit of Adventure
8 June	Grade R – 3 Parent Viewing from 12h30 to 13h00
8 June	World Oceans Day
15 June	Grade 3 Excursion to Ushaka Marine World
16 June	Public Holiday: Youth Day
17 June	World Desertification Day
22 June	Inter-house Lit Quiz
22 June	Second Term Break Up day
13 August	Sports Photos

## SOUTH AFRICAN FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS (SAFTU) STRIKE ON WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL 2018

Manor Gardens Primary School will operate as usual on Wednesday 25 April 2018 even though the South African Federation of Trade Unions (Saftu) has planned to embark on a national strike against the introduction of the national minimum wage. The safety of our pupils is of paramount importance and we will take all necessary precautions to ensure their safety while they are at school. However, should you decide to keep your child at home, they will be marked absent on the register so please send a letter explaining their absence when they return to school on Thursday 26 April.

Please make sure that you and your family are safe and do not take any unnecessary risks.

## TUCK SHOP

Please be advised that the tuck shop will be open on Thursday 26 April as Friday 27 April is a public holiday – **Freedom Day**.

## COMMUNITY POLICE FORUM – NEEDS COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND VOUNTEERS TO ENHANCE MANOR GARDENS AREA

Janus Horn, the new chairperson of the Mayville SAPS Community Police Forum, Manor Gardens Sub Sector 1 B, also needs people to join the committee as members. She reminds us that we have to manage the grime and crime if we want to manage our homes which are our investments and although we are fortunate that the Manor Gardens area has one of the lowest grime and crime rates in the whole of Durban, we have to maintain that and we need to improve on that.

Janus also needs the help of volunteers who can report on various issues on a monthly basis in their specific area of Manor Gardens. The issues include: street lights not working, verges not cut, overhanging branches, garbage collection, water leaks, road surfaces, people loitering, etc. Volunteers don't need to attend meetings but to just send the committee a brief report on things they observe or would like done in the neighbourhood.

Mayville SAPS has agreed to assist in combatting any crime in Manor Gardens so if you know of any suspicious activity in the area, please let Janus know on her mobile number, 083 635 2682, and she will take it up with the CPF and Captain Sithole.

## COMMUNITY POLICE FORUM - MONTHLY MEETING

**Notice :** Meeting of Sub-sector 1B Meeting  
Community Police Sub-Forum  
Mayville SAPS Sector 1B Manor Gardens–Westridge

**Date :** Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 17:30

**Venue :** Sica's Guest House – 19 Owen Avenue, Westridge

**Agenda :**

1. Notice of meeting
2. Welcome and Apologies
3. Minutes of the meeting of March 29, 2018.
4. Matters arising from those minutes.
5. Chairman's report
6. Police report
7. Youth Desk Representative
8. Report on Observer Groups and patrol activity
9. Environmental issues
10. Mayville Community Police Forum: Report
11. General
12. Date of next meeting (*provisionally 31 May 2018*)
13. Closure – 18.30

### **LAST CHANCE FOR THE QUINTATHLON LOGICAL THINKING CHALLENGE – Mrs Sobey**

Quintathlon is a competition that offers pupils from **Grade 1 – Grade 7** a challenge that will test their logical thinking skills in a 1 to 2-hour paper consisting of 5 different challenges, at a **cost of R25.00 per pupil**. The Five challenges (all in one paper) are:

- **English** – with an emphasis on deduction, reading between the lines and logic
- **Mathematics** – problem solving
- **Science** – deduction and logic
- **Pure logic** – puzzles and activities
- **General Knowledge** – from the world around us

The main aim of this competition is to encourage children to think out of the box. If you would like your child to enter this (all entrants receive certificates) please fill in the slip below and return it with payment to the class teacher, in a clearly marked envelope. The closing date for replies is Thursday 26 April 2018. The Challenge will be written towards the end of term.

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#### **Quintathlon 2018 Entry Form**

Please fill in the details below and return this tear off slip to your child's class teacher, together with the amount of **R25.00** in an envelope clearly marked **Quintathlon** Challenge 2018 by Wednesday 26 April.

Pupil's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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#### **ABUSING PARENT WHATSAPP GROUPS**

Some parents are creating WhatsApp groups for the parents of children in their child's class. These are intended for parents to be able to communicate about their child's schooling, especially to check on homework that should be done by their child or to arrange transport for their child. Unfortunately, one of these WhatsApp groups has made comparisons of small samples of homework, classwork and assessment results between the classes within a grade resulting in inaccurate assumptions, false perceptions, accusations of dishonesty and some dispirited teachers, pupils and parents. Sadly, a parent trying to account for his child's lower assessment ratings in the first term, was ill-advisedly relying on the uninformed opinion of parents and young children's immature perceptions of curriculum content and coverage and teaching methodology disseminated to the group. Sadly, a parent trying to find evidence to prove his child's innocence when clearly guilty of a minor misdemeanour corroborated by a number of staff, inappropriately claimed the WhatsApp group's comments cleared her.

One of the disadvantages of social media and seeing comments about a single moment in time, is that messages can be taken out of context and create misunderstanding when one doesn't have the whole picture. Please be careful about making judgements, especially judgements in public, when you don't have all the facts. Rather go to the source in the real world and get your facts straight. Contact the school to get the correct facts of the matter from the member of staff concerned.

Please understand that being tech-savvy also includes promoting the following:

- Good communication in the real world between parents, their children and their teachers.
- Modelling healthy communication habits and relationship skills.
- Valuing relationships and being kind, considerate and respectful.
- Valuing our uniqueness and realizing that comparing children with different abilities is negative.
- Focusing on your child only, supporting her/him in being the best they can be.
- Appreciating that MGPS employs people of integrity with appropriate qualifications and experience.
- Teaching children to take responsibility for their behaviour and its consequences.
- Teaching children to record their homework and take the necessary books home daily.
- Appreciating that MGPS staff are mentored by others in the grade and by the phase departmental head.
- Appreciating that MGPS teachers within a grade plan together daily and cover the same work albeit at different times due to their differing timetables or to accommodate visiting performers, speakers, etc.
- Offloading in the real world, not on social media
- Being an up stander, not bystander, for truth and justice

In real life we sometimes need to hold our tongue and keep our thoughts to ourselves. The same goes for social media - don't be reactive. More than count to ten, sometimes you need to sleep on something before you act on it, if at all.

Please think before you post (about yourself and others), and check yourself before you wreck yourself, your child and your child's school.

#### **EARLY MORNING CHILD CARE AT MINIMAL COST**

Children may not be dropped off without their parent's supervision to wait outside Manor Gardens Primary School before 07h00 when the school gate is still closed. The school provides an early morning child care from 06h30 until 07h00 in the hall under the supervision of Mrs Des Wesson at a minimal cost of R7.00 a day. The children who arrive early are required to read a book or do some activity quietly while they wait.

Children who attend early morning extra mural activities, that is, Breakfast with Books, Recorder and Guitar may also only enter the school gates at 7h00 and then go straight to their particular venues.

#### **CHILDREN TO BE ORGANISED ON SPORTS MATCH DAYS**

Children must arrive at school on sports match days with their complete sports match kits and their confirmed transport arrangements. Mrs Merchant will no longer be phoning parents at the eleventh hour on sports match days to arrange the delivery of forgotten items of clothing and transport arrangements because we need to teach our children to become responsible, organised and self-sufficient.

#### **LICE CHECK**

Parents are requested to please check their children's hair regularly for the presence of lice and their nits and treat accordingly with a lotion from the pharmacy that contains the insect killing chemical. Children may not return to school unless they have a clearance certificate which can be obtained from Dis-Chem Pharmacy at The Atrium in Overport, The Lice and Nit Clinic in Umhlanga and Sparksport Pharmacy. Please see attached for information on lice and its treatment.

**MGPS DRESS CODE: FOOTWEAR - NO SLIP SLOPS ALLOWED**

The **Grade R** children wear brown Elefante sandals (two styles available), Biotribes or Froggie sandals without socks  
OR

plain white takkies with Velcro (no laces) and white school socks folded to the ankle.

The **Grade 1 to 7** children brown Elefante sandals (two styles available), Biotribes or Froggie sandals without socks  
OR

- Boys: brown lace-ups with white ankle socks folded to the ankle
- Girls: brown court shoe with bar worn with white ankle socks folded to the ankle.

**MGPS FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

Parents or family members willing to be a part of the Manor Gardens Primary School's Fundraising Committee must please contact Barka Mistrey via email: [barka.mistrey@gmail.com](mailto:barka.mistrey@gmail.com)

**APPLICATION FOR SIBLINGS IN 2019**

Acceptance of siblings is not automatic. Please return all application forms as soon as possible.

**CHILDREN LEAVING MANOR GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Should your child be leaving MGPS at any time of the year, please note that a term's notice is required in writing.

**SPORTS NEWS – Mr Goodwin and Mrs Fernandez****Results****Soccer**

TEAM	SCHOOL	RESULT
U10	Clarence Primary School	0 – 3 Lost
U12B	Clarence Primary School	0 – 1 Lost
U12A	Clarence Primary School	0 – 8 Lost
U14	Clarence Primary School	2 – 1 Won

**Fixtures****Netball**

DATE	TEAM	SCHOOL	VENUE
2 May	U10,U11 and U13	St Henry's Marist Brothers	St Henry's Marist Brothers

**Soccer**

DATE	TEAM	SCHOOL	VENUE
25 April	U10 and U12B	Durban Primary School	MGPS
	U12A and U14	Durban Primary School	Durban Primary School
2 May	U10 and U12B	Morningside Primary School	Morningside Primary School
	U12A and U14	Morningside Primary School	MGPS
5 May	U10 and U12	Clarence Primary School	Tournament
	U13	Pitlochry Primary School	Tournament

**Hockey – Girls**

DATE	TEAM	SCHOOL	VENUE
3 May	U10, U11 and U13	Pitlochry Primary School	Tournament

**Mini Soccer**

DATE	GRADE 2 – STARTING AT 13h00	VENUE	GRADE 3 – STARTING AT 14h00
26 April	MGPS	Eden College	MGPS
3 May	MGPS	Eden College	MGPS
10 May	MGPS	Eden College	MGPS
24 May	MGPS	Eden College	MGPS
31 May	MGPS	Eden College	MGPS
7 June	MGPS	Eden College	MGPS

**CAROL LOTTERING  
PRINCIPAL**