

# WOODLANDS

## INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE



# JUNIOR

# COLLEGE

## NEWSLETTER



[www.woodlandscollege.co.za](http://www.woodlandscollege.co.za)





## Woodlands International College Junior College Newsletter 10 July 2020

*Dear Woodlands Family,*

### **Message from Mrs Correia-Rees**

As I sat down to write this week's newsletter, I started thinking about the week as a whole and what my week has consisted of. My thoughts went straight to Covid-19, Covid-19, Assessments, Covid-19, Covid-19! It is everywhere and all we seem to be focussed on at the moment.

That made me sad, as life used to be about so many different things. In fact, life used to be fun and it would appear that fun and laughter have disappeared.

With all the stresses, regulations, lockdown and panic we are facing at the moment, life has become no laughing matter. Children don't seem to be laughing or making noise, teachers are teaching and focussing on all the tasks needing to be completed, that they too are laughing less. When last did you laugh so much that it hurt?

We need to change this, at school, at home and in the community – but in a safe manner. Laughter is a free way of relieving stress, it also suits everyone. You can't help but laugh when someone else is laughing hysterically. Laughter is contagious.

In a book I recently read called, 'Pain is inevitable but misery is optional' by Barbara Johnson, she speaks of laughter as a coping strategy for stress. She also provides some examples of how to bring laughter back into your life. I thought it appropriate to share these with you.

1. Listen to your favourite comedian, you can always find them on YouTube.
2. Watch a funny movie, that doesn't require much thought.
3. Sing in the car, like you have never sung before.
4. Think of a time you laughed, really laughed and tell someone the story.
5. Have a family dress-up day, where you randomly pick a family member's name and you are then in charge of setting out their clothes for the day. All garments in your house are fair game, so dad could wear mom's shoes, while your little sister wears dad's jacket, you could even do each other's hair and make-up. The rule is, you have to wear whatever is put out for you and you have to wear it all day! This could also provide a fun, memorable family photo day.
6. Wave at the person in the car next to you. Their reactions could be interesting.
7. Quit making excuses for why you aren't happy. At some point you have to take responsibility for your own happiness, so learn to laugh at yourself.

Laughter is the best medicine they say. I am not too sure who 'they' are, but I do know that I always feel better after a good laugh. My challenge for this week, is to laugh! Laugh so much that it hurts.



*Mrs C Correia-Rees  
Deputy Principal Foundation Phase*

## COVID-19 update

### The DO's and DON'Ts

We, have noted with concern, the following points which we **URGE** parents to take note of:

1. If an immediate member of the family is being tested for Covid-19, please **do not** send your child to school until the results have been received. In addition, please inform the College for the reason of the child's absence immediately. (This applies to any family member/person with whom either children or parents are in direct contact with.)
2. If a member of your immediate family with whom you have direct contact has been travelling out of the Gauteng, the entire family is required to self-isolate for 14-days after returning to Gauteng.
3. Social events, such as birthday parties and sleep overs, are presently not allowed. During these events the possibility of Covid-19 transmission is extremely high.
4. Please note that undertaking a sleep over between students who are online and students who are at school, will expose the student on-line to the same level as the student who has been at school.
5. Completing the Health Check Form: It is vital that parents complete the Health Check form accurately every day. Students are provided with a hard copy of the form on a daily basis. The form is often amended, so please ensure that you are using the form provided. We are currently on version 4.5 Please see attached.
6. If any parent is feeling uncertain of the procedures taken during the college day. We are more than happy to do walk abouts with groups of no more than 4 people at a time. Please liaise with Melinda Dias [diasm@woodlandcollege.co.za](mailto:diasm@woodlandcollege.co.za) There will be allocated dates and times

## Need to know

### Intermediate Phase: Cycle tests

Please note that the cycle tests will start again in September. This will be written during the first period on a Tuesday morning. On-line students will be required to have their parents invigilate these tests, and ensure the answers are submitted within 5 minutes of the end of the test period.

#### Cycle Tests Term 3: 2020

Dates	Gr 4	Gr 5	Gr 6
1 <sup>st</sup> September	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics
8 <sup>th</sup> September	English	English	English
15 <sup>th</sup> September	Natural Science	History	Geography
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Geography	Natural Science	History
29 <sup>th</sup> September	History	Geography	Natural Science
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Zulu	Afrikaans	Afrikaans
13 <sup>th</sup> October	Afrikaans	Zulu	Zulu
20 <sup>th</sup> October	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics
27 <sup>th</sup> October	English	English	English
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	LO Assessment	LO Assessment	LO Assessment
Week of 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> November	English Creative Writing Exam	English Creative Writing Exam	English Creative Writing Exam
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Afrikaans Creative Writing Exam	Afrikaans Creative Writing Exam	Afrikaans Creative Writing Exam

### Google Classroom:

Thank you to all the students and parents for their patience as we introduce Google Classroom to the Intermediate Phase. The joining of "classes" is a once off process. Please note that there will be hiccups during this process, and we do highly appreciate your positive input.

On-line students from Monday will be joining their normal homeroom classes for each of their lessons. This will be achieved through a link in Google Classroom, to join a Google Meet. Google Classroom will work as follows: A student will open Google Classroom and click on the lesson they should be attending based on the Timetable. Once in that subject "classroom" students will click on the Google Meet link and will join the lesson. At the end of the lesson the student will exit the Google Meet and go to their next class and repeat the process. Google Classroom will NOT replace MiEbooks, with regards to notes and tasks. Over time Google Classroom will be used to submit tasks and assessments to teachers. Teaching staff will over time, use Google Classroom for submitting work, however students/parents will be trained in the process. We are taking a "learn as we go" approach, and students will be trained within the classroom.

Please could all parents download the following apps: Google Docs, Google Slides.

### **New Starting Time for Intermediate Phase**

All Intermediate Phase students are to be in their homeroom classes by 7:45a.m. We will be starting school with a homeroom class every morning between 7:45am and 8:00am. We urge parents to ensure that their children are at school prior to the start of the school day. If a student must walk into a class late it is both upsetting to the child and disruptive for the rest of the class. In addition, the student who is late may also miss any messages or instructions.

### **Collection Parking**

Please can parents refrain from parking on the neighbours pavement or in the road while waiting to collect students in the afternoons. This does unfortunately cause frustration for our neighbours. We will be opening the main gates earlier so parents may wait till the children finish school.

### **New staff**

A warm welcome to Ms Zuvela that joined us as a substitute music teacher in the Junior college. We wish you all the best as part of the Woodlands family.



### **Staff personal numbers**

Please refrain from contacting staff on their personal cellphones. The best form of communication is to contact staff via email. Please allow up to 24hours turn around for replies. Alternatively, please contact the Junior college reception on 011 894 -5161.

### **Aftercare Facilities**

Should you require aftercare services, please contact Belinda Rossouw [aftercare@woodlandscollege.co.za](mailto:aftercare@woodlandscollege.co.za).

Lunch will be provided, we will be allocating cutlery and crockery per student to avoid cross contamination. A reminder that aftercare closes at 17:30.

Depending on numbers, aftercare will take place on the main College campus and not on the Dr Vosloo side. Parents will be required to collect their children from the Matthews Hall. Once we exceed the capacity we will move back to Dr. Vosloo property.

### **Message from our Café @ Woodlands team**

Dear Woodlands parents

We would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all the beautiful messages of encouragement we have received! We are so grateful to be part of the Woodlands family!

Parents have adapted to our new way of doing things so quickly and this week has been smooth sailing!

Your kids are amazing! Beautifully mannered and adhering to the Covid 19 protocols perfectly! Their social distancing skills are admirable to witness.

We would just like to say a special thank you to the following moms who have taken the time out of their busy schedules to help us in the café, thank you Tracy Rees, Rosa Ornelas, Tania Del Grosso and Joelene Wiggill. You ladies are amazing!



Best Regards  
 Charlotte & Ansie  
 Café @ Woodlands  
 Phone +27 63 659 7239|Email [cafewoodlands0@gmail.com](mailto:cafewoodlands0@gmail.com)



Hayley Ronaldson enjoying a healthy chicken salad for lunch



<p>Mondays can be blue...              But try our chicken mayo tramezzini and delicious jam squares to cheer you up!</p>		<p><b>Café @ Woodlands</b></p>	<p>Please place orders before 6pm today!</p>	
	<p><b>Café @ Woodlands</b></p>	<p>Tuesdays are for cupcakes &amp; boneless rib ciabattas!</p>		<p><b>Café @ Woodlands</b></p> <p>Wednesday's are for Ansie's famous vetkoek &amp; mince!!! The Wifa kids would know!              Please order via online link before 18:00 today!</p>
<p>Thursday is Chicken Prego day!              Oh and don't forget Charlotte's delicious Homemade Brownies!              Remember to place Your order before 6pm Via the online link!</p>		<p>Pizza Friday is back! And we throwing in Doughnuts as well!</p>	<p><b>Café @ Woodlands</b></p>	<p><b>Café @ Woodlands</b></p> <p>Birthday during lockdown? Can't send treats to school? Don't worry, we've got you covered!</p>
<p><b>Café @ Woodlands</b></p>		<p><b>Café @ Woodlands</b></p>		<p>Place your order 2 days before birthday at school and we'll deliver to your child's class!  <a href="http://cafewoodlands0.co.za">cafewoodlands0.co.za</a></p> <p>Cupcakes              Doughnuts              Rice crispy treats              Etc...</p>

## Supporting our wider community

### Packet Soup and Bread Collections

Usually in the winter months the Junior College collects soup and bread which is distributed to several charities of need. We would like to continue with this tradition, particularly during these trying times. There will be two crates at the Matthews Hall (one for tinned food and one for packets of soup) near the sanitising stations where students can drop off soup. We will have a day towards the end of July for bread donations.



### Mandela Day shoe collection

We would once again like to do a shoe collection as part of Mandela Day and appeal to our Woodlands family to go through your cupboards and donate shoes that are in a good condition and that are no longer being used. Please can you send the shoes (one pair per plastic bag) to the College on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July only.



## Dates to diarise

15 <sup>th</sup> July	Sibling and Grade 1 photograph orders close
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Shoe collection day for Mandela day
31 <sup>st</sup> July	College closes for August holidays @12pm
1 <sup>st</sup> September	College reopens @7:45 Weekly cycle tests starts



## Sports corner

### The Woodlands college coaches back in the day

#### PART 3 - COACH PRIDE:

**Q: What years were you in school?**

A: 1973-1986

**Q: What schools did you go to?**

A: Mohlodong Primary and Thesele Senior Secondary School

**Q: What sports did you participate in?**

A: Athletics and soccer

**Q: What were your favorite sports at school?**

A: Athletics and soccer



**Q: Who was your sporting hero?**

A: Diego Maradona

**Q: What sports were you really bad at?**

A: Soft ball

**Q: What was your biggest sports achievement during your school career?**

A: winning the coca cola high school soccer tournament

**Q: What is/are your most memorable sporting moment/s?**

A: playing for the Orlando Pirates reserve team

**Q: What was your most embarrassing sporting moment?**

A: Missing a penalty for the first time in my soccer career

**Q: What did you learn by participating in sport that you carry with you today?**

A: Be a team player and always strive to be better than your previous match

**Q: What is your favorite quote/motto?**

A: Smooth seas don't produce skilful sailors.

# Woodlands Warbler

*For the students by the students*

## **A world locked down**

By Jua Sefoka

For many, lockdown has isolated them with nothing but their thoughts, which could drive a person mad. Which is why knowing I could go back to school, was a great relief. It was also a bit frightening because I was facing something I never faced before. I have put together a journal describing my experience and options with school during lockdown. I hope this will bring some comfort, knowing you're not the only one experiencing this.

Two weeks ago, I participated in the school's online program. In my opinion, going to school is best in the sense that you socialize with others which is a skill that all should have. This option does have its disadvantages as you are required to wear a mask all the time unless you are eating or drinking - if any of these two actions are done you must be more than 7 meters away from other pupils. The minimum distance between pupils must be 2 metres. Although these distances aren't ideal for socializing and communication, it is to protect staff, pupils and anyone that steps on Woodland College's property.

This pandemic is everything except satisfying, but if we stick together, we can do this as one school, as one country, as one world. We have escaped the claws of darkness and ran to the light and we will do it again.

As Henry Ford once said, "Whether you think you can, or you can't, you're right"  
Meaning the resilience of the human spirit is like a star except you decided when it fades.



# COVID-19

What's new at school!!



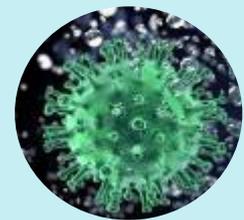
## Never the same again

Life, as we know it, will never be the same again after the pandemic.

School has changed a lot over the last 5 weeks. Not being able to hug your friends or sit next to each other at break has proven to be quite challenging. Coming to school is different. In the mornings, we get our shoes and bags sprayed with sanitizer mist and get our temperature checked to allow us in. Then, we have to go straight to class, no more hanging around and chatting. During the day, we have hand washing periods before and after breaks. What's really awesome though is that we don't have to move classes, the teachers come to us! At break, we have to sit in squares that are spray painted on the field two metres apart. When we have to go home, we go to the hall adhering to social distancing and wait for our name to be called. A similar process to the morning routine, happens when we go home, we get our shoes and bags sprayed. We have temperature checks during the day - one at 10:00 and another at 12:00. Everyone has break-time at different times, so if you have a friend or sibling in a lower or higher grade, then you don't spend time with them. It's really awesome to go home earlier than normal and to be able to catch up on all your homework. I've never done the online zoom classes, but I've been at school, so I don't need to. I am glad to be back at school.

The coronavirus is very dangerous and spreads quickly. You might think the masks are really annoying, but the virus is spread through saliva and mucus. (Spit and snot). The droplets then land on surfaces, you touch the surface and then your face. Once it's on your face, you could very easily breath it in, and once it's in your lungs, it can easily infect you. People with underlying conditions such as asthma, diabetes, heart and lung are at higher risk than most others.

One of the symptoms of COVID-19 are high temperature (37.5C), dry cough, shortness of breath, fatigue and sore throat.



**1**  
**MASK**  
Always wear your mask and wash it every day so that it is clean and free of germs.

**2**  
**WASH YOUR HANDS**  
Wash them very often, before and after meals and after using the toilet

**3**  
**SOCIAL DISTANCING**  
Try and keep a distance of 1.5 meters between you and others.



**“If you're going through hell, keep on going.”**

**— Winston Churchill**