



NEWSLETTER

1 May 2020

**Dear Woodlands family,
From the Principal's desk**

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

The new Normal

To stop coronavirus we will need to radically change almost everything we do: how we work, exercise, socialize, shop, manage our health, educate our children and take care of family members.

We all want things to go back to normal quickly, but what most of us have probably not yet realized—yet will soon—is that things won't go back to normal after a few weeks, or even a few months. In fact, some things will never go back to normal. What will this new “normal” look like? Social distancing as well as increased hygiene will definitely become a normal part of our everyday lives.

If we imagine the near term, we will probably find inconvenient and awkward compromises that allow us to retain some semblance of social life. For instance, maybe movie theatres will seat half or less of their capacity, meetings or large gatherings will be held in larger rooms with prescribed two-meter spaced-out chairs, and gyms might require you to book workout sessions ahead of time so they do not become over crowded. There might be added requirements or restrictions when wanting to fly, entering a large venue or using public transport. Perhaps our smart phones would be used to monitor our movements, alerting officials if we have been near any infection hot spots.

Proof of vaccinations against novel viruses might become a strict requirement when travel resumes globally.

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Schools and learning institutions as we know them today may look completely different in the years to come. Will online, distance learning become a new normal? Can young children gain the skills they need without being exposed to friends and challenging interactions presented at school? If only like Alice, we could peer into the looking-glass to see for a brief moment, what awaits us in the new world.

On a positive note, our children who approach the world in an unprejudiced and innocent way are very capable of adapting and changing in the wake of what lies ahead.

"Education begins the moment we see children as innately wise and capable beings. Only then can we play along in their world."

Vince Gowmo



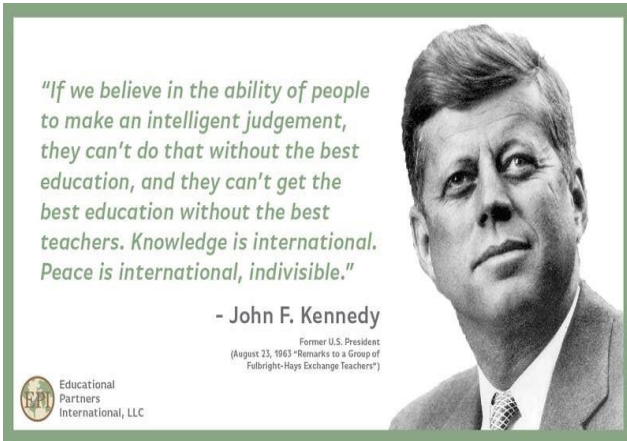
Jenny Copeling

Pre-Primary College Principal

OFFICIAL REOPENING OF COLLEGE

As was conveyed to all parents, without consensus reached by the Education Department we have no way of predicting when College will reopen. As we are informed of any confirmed decisions made, we will update the parents with immediate effect. Even though all teachers are eager to return and I am sure most children, we are unfortunately controlled by government's decision as to when schools will be allowed to return.

When the go ahead is received it will however come with many rules and regulations that will need to be adhered to in the interest of everyone's safety.



WHATSAPP INFORMATION GROUP

As the present WhatsApp groups are becoming overwhelming with information, sharing of ideas and images, it has been decided that the Teacher from each group will set up a class WhatsApp group that will be solely for the sharing of weekly planning and ideas from the teacher.

This group will be an information group only and no commenting will be available. Should you require any clarity please use the other group and the class rep can pass it on to the teacher who will in turn clarify it on the information group. This is to prevent important information becoming lost or misplaced.

ZOOM CLASSES

Zoom classes were launched this week with some teachers experiencing more success than others. We trust the children have benefitted from these visual encounters with their peers and teacher. These will continue indefinitely until school reopens once again.



BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish the following Woodlands Pre-Primary children a Happy Birthday for next week, we trust that you will celebrate with your family at home. We look forward to catching up once we get back to school.



ANTS



8 May – Tyler Rebelo

BUTTERFLIES



9 May - Jaydon Brink

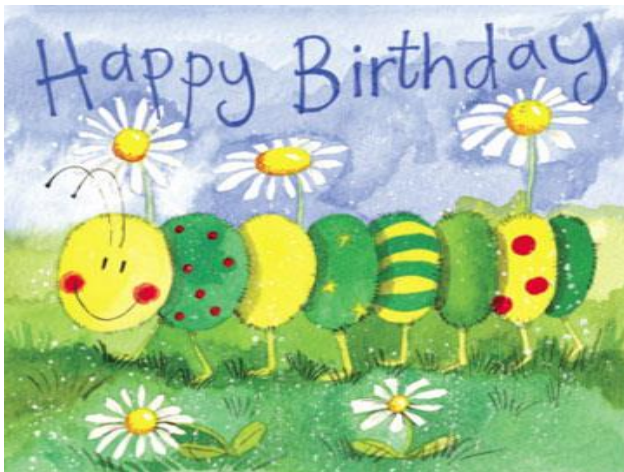
INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES FROM OUR DEDICATED GRADE 00 TEACHERS



A teacher presents the past,
reveals the present, and creates
the future.

Teacher Brigitte

CATERPILLARS



9 May – Melina Hadjidimitriades



*“How you make
other’s feel,
says a lot about
who you are.
Leave them with
a smile, a hug and
a kind thought.”*

Teacher Susan

CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to congratulate Mpho Mtyida in (Grade 00W) and his family, on the arrival of his new baby sister, Okuhle on the 14th April 2020. We know she is going to bring you much joy and happiness.



*“Helping one
person may not
change the world,
but it could
change the world
for one person”*

Teacher Michelle