



10 September 2018

Dear Parents

With less than 3 weeks left of the term there are a few important things that we wish to bring to your attention. Please note there are two pages to this letter.

Parent teacher meetings

By now you will have received an email from your child's teacher stating whether or not a meeting was necessary for this term – please respond via email to the teacher confirming your receipt of this. If the teacher has requested a meeting, we urge you to make time for this in your schedule.

Gr R and Gr 00 Concert

Tracey Du Toit is sending out a booking link for the Grade R and Grade 00 Concert, this will be held in the Haydock Hall next week. If you are interested in helping with make-up for these two performances, as well as for the dress rehearsal on Tuesday 18th at 09:00, please let your child's class teacher know as soon as possible.

- Please drop your child off no later than 16:30 on Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th so that teachers can get your children dressed and settled before the concert begins. Parents, please move down to the Haydock Hall at this point.
- Children are to be dropped off, as well as fetched from their classroom. They will be changing in the classes beforehand. The costumes belonging to the school must be washed and returned by the following week but concert clothes belonging to the individual children may go home with the children after Thursday night's performance.
- Moms helping with make-up must please be at school at 16:30.
- We do encourage parents to send their child home at 13:00 for a little rest and a light supper before the show. Should this not be possible, please consider sending your child home with a friend for the afternoon. However, please note that the Oakwood Aftercare will be available, for those who cannot get home and back before 16:30. Mrs Fingers and Mrs Fairburn will keep the children calm and rested.
- Mrs Rautenbach will be serving iced tea and Christmas cake while you wait for your children to prepare for the concert (from 16:30 to 17:30).

DVD Order

We have hired a professional videographer to record the show again this year. Please fill in the order form that has been mailed to you along with your concert tickets booking form, should you wish to purchase a copy or two. We charge to cover the cost of the videographer. It is great fun for the children to watch themselves as well as their friends in this 'real movie' format! The videographer will also be in the classrooms to capture the 'getting ready' moments. We highly recommend that you purchase a copy!

Collection - bread tags

We are currently collecting bread tags to fund a wheelchair for someone in need. We have jars waiting to be filled and need to fill ten black bags to reach our goal – please start bringing these in. There will be a jar per grade to start with. Please ask your friends and family to help us in this cause.



Cultural week

Cultural week is coming up in the last week of term. We have a very exciting programme planned for your children for this week. On the last day of term, we would like to have our annual "Tastes From Around the World" day. We would greatly appreciate it if each family could provide a small plate of twenty bite sized eats from a culture/country of your choice. This is always a valuable experience for the children as they often taste new flavours and foods for the first time and begin asking questions about other's cultures through these foods! This will also be a dress up day and children can come along to school dressed in any cultural clothing that is of interest to them. PLEASE NOTE that we are aware of the allergies in the school but cannot cater according to them for an event such as this – parents please pack a special treat that is safe for your child to eat if you have a child with severe food allergies. Please talk to the teachers about this if it affects your child.

Spring Outreach

A huge thank you to all of the parents for sending in eats, flowers and donations for goodie bags last week. The Spring Outreach was a wonderful occasion, as always, and the elderly visitors send their appreciation and gratitude to the Somerset House families. This has been stated time and time again as the highlight of their year. The pure joy that your children brought to them was incredibly touching to witness. Thank you to the Class Reps who worked very hard setting up, co-ordinating and serving the tea on this morning.

Morning Routine and Gate

We have noticed a number of parents dropping their children off in the mornings and then continuing to stay at school until, or after the 08:00 bell. We encourage you to spend a minute or two with your child in the morning if this is still what they need, and then allow them time to play without your supervision for a while before the day formally starts. Parents need to respect the 08:00 start of school time as we find it very disruptive to try to begin the school day when parents are still arriving after this time.

Thank you for working with us to make your child's preschool journey a very exciting and valuable one.

Sincerely

The Oakwood Team