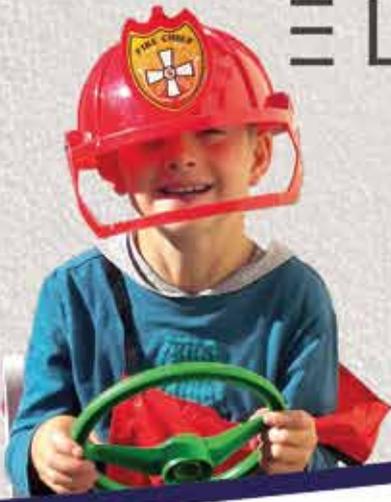


# ELKANAH HOUSE

## Weekly Newsletter



### Weekly Newsletter - Pre-Primary

Dear Parents

8 February 2019

When reading about the future of work and the skills that pupils will need to participate positively, productively and successfully, futurists and experts all seem to agree that there are certain holistic abilities that will be valuable regardless of what job they end up doing one day. These are not Learning Area specific skills or concepts, but rather a set of abilities and attitudes that can be applied in almost any situation in order to solve problems and find solutions.

Keeping this future-proofing in mind, and as part of our commitment to providing a world-class education for our pupils, Elkanah House is excited and proud to launch our Global Competencies. These Global Competencies will drive our curriculum and be at the forefront of our academic strategy.

The five Global Competencies are:

- \* **Thinking Skills** (which include critical thinking, creative thinking and reflective thinking)
- \* **Research Skills** (which include different forms of inquiry, information literacy, digital and media literacy)
- \* **Communication Skills** (which include personal interaction and communication with others in various contexts)
- \* **Self-management Skills** (which include personal organisation, self reflection and developing a growth mindset)
- \* **Social Skills** (which include personal behaviour, leadership and collaboration)

The intentional integration of the Global Competencies into our academic offering will empower and prepare our pupils for their futures. Each competency has explicitly defined capabilities that extend our pupils beyond academic ability alone.

### DATES TO Diarise

**14 February**  
Friendship Day

**23 February**  
Open Day  
09h00-11h00

**18 March**  
Parent/Teacher  
Meetings

**20 March**  
Break Up Day  
11h00



**Recycling Duty**  
11 February  
Chameleons

Our role as teachers is to expose our pupils to these within our current curriculum. They will understand the specific and authentic role of the Global Competencies within the learning tasks they are involved in. In turn, they will be able to self-assess their application and abilities and determine what next steps they can take in developing and applying their skills. They will be given opportunities to peer-assess and engage in constructive conversations with other pupils around the development of the specific skills.

It is very important to us as a school to encourage our parents to take this journey with us. We will unpack each competency in future newsletters, giving you greater insight into each one and how it practically applies to your child.

### **Campus Recycling Rep**

We would like to thank Liesle Clement for her years of service as the recycling Rep for the Blouberg Campus. She has been an incredible inspiration to our children and our community over the last couple of years. Liesle and her family are now a part of the Senior Primary campus and she is serving there.

If you are passionate about recycling and want to make a difference in our community we are looking for a new Recycling Rep. Please contact Mr. West if you are interested.

### **Gr 00 Kagan Lesson**

*What is a Kagan Lesson? A Miracle of Active Engagement. Kagan Structures are instructional strategies designed to promote cooperation and communication in the classroom, boost students' confidence and retain their interest in classroom interaction.*

### **Hands up and pair up**

This is a different approach to sharing our weekend news! When the music starts the children skip around the room. When it stops the children have to find a partner and sit opposite each other. If they don't have a partner they must keep their hand up and the teacher will pair them up. At this point, the children will share their weekend news. After a few minutes, it's feedback time. Instead of the children telling the class that they did they have to retell what their friend did, enhancing their listening skills in a fun and interactive way. The children love using this Kagan technique and are improving all the time.



## Open Day - 23 February 2019

As a community based school, we schedule Open Days a couple of times a year to encourage our own families and any other families to enjoy a morning with us, participating in all the activities on offer.

Our first Open Day for this year is on Saturday 23 February at the Blouberg Campus from 09h00 to 11h00. We are excited to show you why Elkanah House has a fun and exciting learning programme. This year we will be launching our Global Competencies. These skills are woven into our lessons and school activities. We will be showcasing these competencies at our Open Day with special activities for your children to take part in. Please join us for a morning of fun and games.

Coffee and refreshments will be on sale throughout the morning and it promises to be a festive and fun morning for all. Please save the date!

## Friendship Day Dress Up

We will be celebrating Valentine's Day on 14 February by "sharing the love". Children may come to school dressed in civvies wearing red, pink or white.

We request that children bring in a donation for Home of Hope which is a charity that we support. If you would like to contribute, here are some suggestions:

- \* Cereals (Weetbix, Mielie Meel, Oats)
- \* Tinned & Bottled Products (Pilchards, Baked Beans, Tuna, Mayonaise, Peanut Butter etc)
- \* General (Spaghetti, Macaroni, Rice)
- \* Milk, Tea, Coffee, Tea, Sugar
- \* Baking Items (Flour, Baking Powder etc)
- \* Spices
- \* Domestic Cleaning Materials
- \* Toiletries
- \* Nappies (XL size 5 and up)
- \* Savlon, Aqueous Cream, Sun Block, Vaseline
- \* Cotton Wool, Ear Buds
- \* Teenage Face Cream