

ELKANAH HOUSE

Weekly Newsletter



Weekly Newsletter - Junior 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. Competency in future newsletters, giving you greater

DATES TO Diarise

14 February
Friendship Day

23 February
Open Day
09h00-11h00

**25 February -
1 March**
Junior Primary
Photographs

13 March
Fun Gala at Senior
Primary Campus
09h00-12h00

18 March
Parent/Teacher
Meetings

20 March
Break Up Day
11h15



Recycling Duty
11 February
Robins

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.

Report from our Grade 2s

The Weavers have whizzed into an exciting year of learning! Collaboration and research were the focus of this week.

The children worked in groups to form new words learnt with beginning and end blends. They enjoyed using THRASS tiles and working on the whiteboard. Working as a team, they had to create a thinking map using sounds learnt.

We used i-Pads in class to research facts about birds. We will use these interesting facts gathered to create sentences during our computer lesson.

During Maths lessons we learnt a few new Maths Games which the children loved and we worked independently on tasks.

We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead!



The Robins were busy with mind mapping ideas, climbing trees with friends, solving maths problems together, research on i-Pads and checking out the veggies in the garden is all in a day's work for our Grade 2s. We have "Tons of Fun", because "School is Cool"!



Tea with Mr West

The Grade 3 Kingfisher class have a reward system called Class Dojo. After a cycle, the 'winners' can choose a coupon as their reward. One of the coupons is 'Tea with Mr West'. Olivia-Bo Brits and Riya Meeran chose this option for their reward and enjoyed sharing this moment with Mr West.



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. The focus will be on participating in some of the sport and cultural extra-mural programmes that are on offer at our school. This will provide a wonderful interactive opportunity to learn more about some of the extra murals on offer at our campus for the winter terms.

We invite all of our Junior Primary and their families and friends to join in the fun. While it is not a compulsory event, participation in these activities will give your child the opportunity to make an informed decision as to which sport or cultural activity they would like to choose next term.

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

The sports on offer at the Open Day will be Hockey, Netball and Rugby and there will be a coach on hand to show your child some of the basics skills of these sports. Our cultural extra-murals on offer will be Zumba, BeeBots, Robotics, Experi-Buddies and Krafty Kids.

Those wishing to participate in this interactive morning will need to sign up for the above mentioned activities which will be run in 30 minute sessions between 09h00 and 11h00.

We would love you to join us. An email will be sent out closer to the time with the sign-up details. We look forward to seeing all our children at Open Day, so please save the date!

Friendship Day Dress Up - 14 February 2019

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, 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