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Dear Alex Family Members

The solstice newsletter

In a week with no rain and no load shedding we could be excused for thinking that we must take the good with the bad. We all need to ramp up our water saving routines as our city stares down a potentially devastating situation when there is just not enough water to meet the daily consumption. There does not seem to be much rain forecast for next week. Please do what you can to save as much water as you can.

As we approach the exponential growth phase of the pandemic, the number of daily new cases is starting to increase alarmingly. I am sure that I don't need to remind you that we must all be exceptionally vigilant regarding all our Covid-19-related protocols. We have maintained a high standard as a community, and we need to keep on working together to protect everyone.

We had an automated renewal of the acceptance of our Code of Conduct set up on our database, but I forgot about it and failed to set it up correctly. Please ignore an email sent yesterday about the Code of Conduct and accept my apology for the irritation of it.

At the SGB meeting last night several policies were adopted. I have uploaded them all to the downloads page on our school website. The policies adjusted were: The Code of Conduct, the Sexual Harassment Policy, and the Admissions Policy.

There were some minor adjustments to the structure of the Code of Conduct and some minor changes to the dress and discipline section. These were mostly to make the document more readable and to have it match our practice more closely.

The Sexual Harassment Policy is new. A lot of work went into the creation of this policy and I hope that it will further protect the members of our family.

The Admissions Policy was amended to refer more closely to the online application process and a clause was added allowing us to accept the children of staff members.

All our policy documents are reviewed regularly and subject to change after being reviewed by the SGB. We feel strongly that policy is the rudder of the ship and without regular monitoring and refinement we could slowly drift off course. My deep thanks to

the members of the policy review teams from the SGB who spent a large amount of time trawling through every detail of each policy to ensure that we have a robust platform from which to operate.

Our hearty congratulations to Riley Meyer who hosted a session on 5FM this morning. She made us enormously proud.

Congratulations must also go to our senior chess champion Cohen Geswint who beat Kwezi Linda in the final.

We move into full exam mode next week from Monday. Please have a close look at the exam timetable (<https://bit.ly/3z18Ing>) to be sure that you send your child to school at the correct time and on the correct day. If you notice any symptoms on the morning of the exam, it is essential that you keep your child at home and let us know. We cannot afford to have anyone with symptoms come to school. I understand your motivation to send them to school for the exam but please resist that urge. We will not allow them in at screening.

While the exams and tests being written over the next two weeks are important, they are not more important than keeping our community safe.

Please save as much water as you can and keep yourself and your loved ones safe.

Fond regards



Matthew Ridgway
Principal