



Alexander Road High School

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South Africa

10 September 2021

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Dear Alex Family Members

The first warm day of Spring newsletter

I hope you had a chance to be outside at some time today. My office is on the south side of the school and remains well chilled right into Spring. I am grateful on beautiful days to be summoned out onto the field to look at some area of the school or to do a break duty and see the smiling faces of our children enjoying the world. If you made it outside today, you will have enjoyed the first properly warm day this Spring. I hope you took a moment to appreciate it while you were there.

The Minister of Education has confirmed that our third term will end on 1 October and our fourth term will start on 11 October. There was some discussion in the press and on social media about our holiday being removed to help make up for the week lost at the start of the term. We are also still working with a 1m social distancing rule. Our Grade 11s are back in full attendance every day.

We have had two incidents of pupils who are sick coming to school. They must have lied to the screeners and were allowed into school. They then sat at break with their masks off and were responsible for our having to send a fairly large group of pupils into quarantine in two separate incidents. I plead again with every family to take extra care to avoid sending your children to school if they are symptomatic. It would be a very heavy burden to bear if a child came to school and passed the virus along to friends who subsequently lost a parent or grandparent.

Dr Emery is on her way to the national competition of the National Teacher Awards after having won the provincial competition two weeks ago. She will be representing Alex and the Eastern Cape on Monday at the national event. We wish her all the best.

The English Olympiad results are out this week and we are very proud of all 13 people who were recognised with a certificate. Naledi Jijana and Erin Couzyn were our top achievers with Silver awards. We would like to encourage everyone to sign up for the 2022 Olympiad. The details are below.

2022 ENGLISH OLYMPIAD



WHAT IS IT?

Open-book examination that explores literature beyond the scope of the classroom

WHY ENTER?

Flex your critical thinking and creative muscles
Win scholarships (Rhodes University) and cash prizes

WHO CAN ENTER?

Anyone in Grades 9 - 12 in 2022 (Current Grade 8 - 11)

WHEN IS IT WRITTEN?

Tuesday, 8 March 2022

HOW DO I ENTER?

Pay R110 to the bursar by Monday, 27 September

A quick reminder about the parking near the fig tree on the eastbound side of Alexander Road. Those parking bays are not to be used in the morning. Please operate that section as a lay-by for parents to drop and go. It creates quite a blockage if someone decides to park diagonally in the middle of the area. If we all stick together to keep the traffic flowing and keep our patience when someone does something silly, we can set a fantastic example for our children for when they are confronted with a difficult situation. Then we model what we hope to see in them when they are facing a crisis.

Please keep yourself and your loved ones safe this week

Fond regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Ridgway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Matthew Ridgway
Principal