



Alexander Road High School

Private Bag X34377
Newton Park
6055
Gqeberha
South Africa

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Tel: 041 365 1270
E-Mail: info@arhs.co.za
Web: arhs.co.za

Dear Alex Family Members

Welcome to the 2024 academic year

We are all very excited to welcome your children back for the 2024 academic year.

We have had a look at the Matric results from 2023 and we have a lot to celebrate. We posted the second largest group of Matric passes in the city. We achieved a 96,4% pass rate with a few exceptional results from some individual pupils. Well done to all in our community who have supported these young people on the 12-year journey that culminated in these results.

Alexander Road High School congratulates the TOP MATRICS for 2023



SKYE BANKS
7 Distinctions - 85% Average



SINGA SITUNDA
7 Distinctions - 84% Average



JORDAN LINDOOR
6 Distinctions - 84% Average



RANIA MOODLEY
5 Distinctions - 84% Average



BROOKLYN PIENAAR
5 Distinctions - 82% Average

We welcome Ms Povey to Alex as she takes up the role of counsellor this year. Ms Lawson has moved into the bursar's office this year and we welcome her. Ms Fezile joins us in the Afrikaans department and is also a most welcome addition to our team.

We are hosting our annual Interhouse Athletics meeting on Monday at the Westbourne Oval. Please take note that there is no transport from Alex to the Oval. We need you to get the children to the Oval by 07H30 on Monday. Please bear in mind that the traffic in that area can be quite chaotic at that time of day. Earlier is better, if you can manage that.

We need everyone to stay at the Oval until the meeting is over. We will be done by 14H15. If there is any expected issue with the end time, I will send an SMS to you in good time. Please do not make plans for your child to be fetched early, as we will not be allowing them out.

We expect everyone to be dressed in their House shirts with either black shorts or the uniform brown quantec skort or shorts with white takkies. Please make sure that your children are dressed correctly before you send them off. Sunscreen and a hat are sensible additions to the outfit.

There will be some food on sale at the Oval; packed lunches and a bottle of water are most welcome. Please encourage them not to bring valuables with them on the day.

We look forward to another fantastic time together. If you have the opportunity to join us for all or part of the day, please feel most welcome. The presentations by the houses are scheduled for 08H00.

Looking ahead to next week, we are inviting all Grade 12 parents to join us at 17H00 on Tuesday (23 January) to discuss some important details in preparation for supporting them this year. We should be done by 18H00. I will post the meeting minutes for any who are not able to join.

On Wednesday, we invite all Grade 8 Parents to join us at 17H00 for a similarly important meeting to ensure that we are all aligned in our support for our children.

On Thursday, the Grade 10 Parents are invited for an information sharing opportunity.

We will see Grade 9 parents on Wednesday, 31 January, and Grade 11 parents on Thursday, 1 February, all at 17H00.

Each meeting addresses the issue most relevant for the year group, so if you have children in multiple grades, there won't be much repetition.

We have opened our applications for 2025 and we already have over 100 applicants. If you have a child that you would like to send to Alex next year, please head over to our website at www.arhs.co.za/apply in order to complete an application. If you have friends and family who are considering Alex, please encourage them to get an application in. We have Open days planned for the 13th and 14th of February from 17H00.

We have a very full extramural schedule for this year. Please see our list of summer activities on our website <https://bit.ly/3U43hkw>. We would love your support in encouraging everyone to get involved. There is such a wide variety on offer that it is unlikely that anyone would not find at least one sport or society of interest.

Please look out for the budget and school fee form for 2024. I sent you the details of the budget in November last year, but this document is an essential part of our commitment to collecting fees from parents. Please could you sign the document when it arrives and send it back as soon as you can. If both parents are not around, please could the one who is available sign it and return it.

If you were not aware, we are offering a new discount this year for parents who sign a debit order form and adhere to all the payments. We are offering a 5% discount on the whole year's fees in December when the last payment arrives. It reduces the increase for this year from 8% down to 3%, which is much more palatable. You only have Monday left to submit the debit order form if you are using the 25th as a batch date. Please don't miss out on this opportunity. It will be too late if you wait. The debit order form is on our website: <https://bit.ly/47MPUZ3>

We have two initiatives that I need to remind you of. The first is our used cooking oil drive. Once you have used cooking oil, please do not run it down the sink or send the bottle to landfill. These are both harmful and unsustainable practices. Please send the oil to school. We have a container inside the fig tree gate. We take that oil and get it converted into biodiesel, which we use in our vehicles as a carbon friendly fuel. Please support this initiative.

The second one is the table of sharing. We have a very diverse community and there are families at Alex in which it is occasionally a challenge to provide the basics. The table of sharing is an opportunity for you to add a non-perishable item to your grocery list and send it to school so that when we become aware of a need in our community, we are able to address it.

My thanks to everyone who supported these drives last year. It makes the world of difference.

Please look after yourself and those you love, this year.

Regards



Matthew Ridgway
Principal