



Alexander Road High School

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9 April 2021

Dear Alex Family Members
Long Live the 4-day week

If your week has been anything like mine, you might not have noticed that we have had four 4-day weeks on the trot. I think we still all got 5 days of work done. I think that 4-day weekends and 4-day weeks could work for me long-term, but I do remember the impact of reduced working hours on our economy and then I re-think that opinion.

Thank you all for the energy that you have invested in getting everyone back into school uniform. There was a little confusion about the wearing of tracksuits. We are aware of the shortage of jerseys and we have made a concession to allow tracksuit tops to be worn with variform only, until the supply of jerseys has been restored. There should not be any pupils in full tracksuits unless they have been in contact with the relevant Grade Head to address the matter. We tried including tracksuits as part of the normal school uniform a few years ago. Tracksuits just don't wear as well as other uniform and fairly soon they start to deteriorate, and our people start to look shabby.

A big thanks to everyone who has diligently paid their school fees this year. I am eternally grateful to the Alex Family for making the payment of school fees such a high priority in their budgets. It is your focus on this area that allows us to do what we need to for our children.

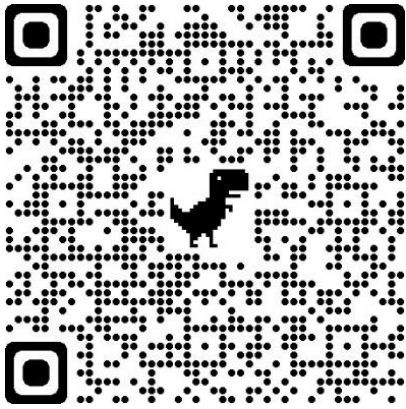
Excitement is building around our first music performance of the year. This time next week we will have the various ensembles playing in the hall and we will be running a live feed to a massive screen on the Heart balcony where you will all be able to sit in your cars on the rugby field and enjoy them without any danger of the spread of Covid-19.

There will be a food truck; see the menu included.
Tickets can be purchased from

<https://www.quicket.co.za/events/136745-alexander-road-high-school-music-the-drive-in/?ref=events-list#/>

QR code below





We are scheduling our first sport fixtures. In order to prepare teams, we need to have practices for the whole age group. The implications are that there will be practices for players on days when they are not at school. I know this is an inconvenience but there is no other way to get a team together. The aim will be to have consecutive days as practice days. This way at least one practice day will fall on a day when they are at school already. Please do what you can to accommodate us in this regard. Once we have finalised the schedule for the fixtures, we will publish them. At this stage we are still not allowed to have any spectators, but we are toying with the idea of live streaming the matches. Watch this space!

Please remember our table of sharing. If you have the means to pop an extra item into your basket while picking up the groceries and can send it to school, that will really help us to supply canned and dry goods to some of our Alex families who are facing difficulties.

The last day of Term 1 is Friday 23 April. It is Green day 2 and will have all 6 lessons. We will move the final assembly to the end of the day and school will be over by 13H40. We expect the Blue group to work at home during the day. The link to the assembly is <https://youtu.be/sAC5YaC5obQ> We would love to have everyone join us for this assembly. Reports will be sent in batches during the day on Friday, so there

COVID PROTOCOLS APPLY....Please remain in your vehicle at all times

Alexander Road High School
PRESENTS

Music @ The Drive In

Streamed to the BIG screen will be live performances by the Alex Choir, Wind Band, Concert Band, Big Band & various other sized ensembles

R150 per vehicle
limited tickets available

Ticket sales
<https://www.quicket.co.za/events/136745-alexander-road-high-school-music-the-drive-in>

Friday, 16 April 2021
Gates open @ 17:30
Event starts @ 18:30

FOOD TRUCKS available.
Please WhatsApp 061 387 1135 to pre-order !!

crisps, sweets & chocolates on sale at the event

NO tickets available at the gate!

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may be a time delay between the first and the last batch. If you have not had your report via email by 15H00, then email me and I will send it to you.

Our applications for Grade 8 for 2022 are now closed. We have had over 1400 applications so far. I have made offers to a number to families who have until the end of May to make a decision. We had a very high quality of applicants again this year. It has been a very frustrating experience to have to put applicants on the waiting list because I can see that they would flourish at Alex, but we simply don't have the capacity to take in more people. This demand for Alex bodes very well for the school and allows us to pick the very best applicants for Grade 8 each year.

Our collective congratulations to Ms Tracey Harris, who was elected as the chair of our SGB; to Mr Stan Liebenberg, who was elected as the deputy chair; and to Mr Quintin Levey, who was elected as the treasurer. We thank you all for being willing to hold these very important positions and we give you all our support as you carry out your role.

Please remain constantly vigilant for symptoms of Covid-19. If your child exhibits any signs or symptoms, they should remain at home until all the symptoms have abated. This applies even if there is a test scheduled for that day. Previously, we would have encouraged you to send them to school just to write the test but now we cannot afford to do that. If we stick to our guns and work together, we can keep our community safer.

Please remember not to do a U turn in Alexander Road. This is particularly important at peak times. It is not very difficult to get where you need to go via second or third avenue without causing the frustration associated with conducting a U turn in a busy road.

Please keep yourselves and your loved ones safe this week.

Warm regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Ridgway', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Matthew Ridgway