



# Alexander Road High School

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South Africa

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Dear Alex Family Members

## The budget meeting newsletter

At the AGM and Budget Meeting held on Wednesday evening, we had the budget for 2022 approved and various undertakings were resolved that must be in place for the school to function. My thanks to Mr Levey, our trusty treasurer for his focus and attention in the run up to preparing the budget, and to the whole Finance Committee, who work hard all year to make sure that your hard-earned money is put to the best possible use.

The details of the new budget are added to the end of this newsletter but the most important number is an increase of 5.9% in school fees, which equates to R3191 per month over 11 months. My sincere thanks to you for being so diligent in paying your fees.

At our last SGB meeting it was decided that we would run the survey again in January that you completed in September to get a feel for how ready we are as a community to return to full-time attendance of all grades from the start of 2022. The results of the September survey clearly indicate that most of the Alexan Family felt, at that time, that a return to full attendance was a priority. We all know that the next wave is looming large as the northern hemisphere countries are busy with this challenge. Once we get results in January, we will convene a meeting to determine our course of action.

The teachers are preparing earnestly for a full return but have the contingency plan on ice, if we need to implement it. We are also populating the 2022 calendar with a full set of sport and cultural engagements for 2022. The show that was ready to go this year has been scheduled, so start preparing yourself to go back 'into the woods' in May of 2022. We are working really hard to overcome the inertia that has persisted since our return to class in 2020. We are putting extra energy into recruiting people for our extramural programmes, so that once they get going again, we can start enjoying the benefits of these activities.



Congratulations to Amy Liebenberg and her dog Eska who competed in the GSDF Good Hope Club Breed Show 2021 in Cape Town. Amy and Eska did wonderfully well and came home with an arm full of trophies, including for first in their class. We hope Eska got an extra bone after that. We are very proud of you both.

As we expect at this time of year, our children trend to relax their adherence to the dress parameters in the Code of Conduct. We have had a number of them wearing tracksuits on colder days and quite a few sparkly diamante earrings, loops and dangle earrings, and a few nose rings as well. Some boys have lost the will to shave and not everyone is tying back hair that hangs in the face. I apologise for the SMS I sent this week that was intended as a friendly reminder but came across as an accusation. I only have 160 characters to send you a message and I clearly got it wrong this week. Please could I ask that you give them a glance over and don't let them out of the house if they are not dressed correctly. We will be issuing exam detentions to those who are not getting it right. If we work together, we can get where we need to be on this issue.

Another area of essential collaboration is the return of text books. I know that I have harped on this issue quite a bit recently but we had to increase the budget for textbooks for 2022 and I don't want to have to spend most of that money on replacing textbooks that have been left at home. Please help by checking with your children that they have their books with them on the day of their last exam These will start happening next week. Your support is very much appreciated.

## BUDGET AND SCHOOL FEES 2022

In accordance with the regulations as laid down in the South African Schools' Act of 1996, a meeting of parents was held in the Hall on Wednesday evening 17 November 2021. At this meeting the proposed budget for 2022 was accepted and an adjustment

to the current school fee of 5,9% was also accepted. Compulsory School Fees for 2022 in terms of Section 39 of the South African Schools Act, will therefore be as follows:

R35 105,00 PER ANNUM PER CHILD

Please note the following resolutions are in place:

Resolution 1. We, the parents of Alexander Road High School, resolve to be a fee-paying school. School fees will be determined for 2022 and charged by the school.

Resolution 2: We, the parents of Alexander Road High School, approve the budget for 2022, as tabled, which reflects the estimated trends of non-payment and of the exemptions likely to be granted to parents in terms of applicable legislations.

Resolution 3: We, the parents of Alexander Road High School agree to apply the criteria for total, partial or conditional exemption of parents who are unable to pay compulsory school fees, as specified in the Regulations for the Exemption of Parents from the Payment of School Fees, 2005, as amended.

Resolution 4: We, the parents of Alexander Road High School, authorise the SGB to make payments to state-employed members of staff in terms of Section 38A of the South African Schools Act and approve the sum allocated towards Section 38A payments as reflected in the budget tabled.

Resolution 5: We, the parents of Alexander Road High School, agree that the fees for 2022 will be R35 105 per child.

**VERY IMPORTANT:**

· School fees are PAYABLE IN ADVANCE and are due on the first day of the school year 2022.

· The following TERMS OF PAYMENT are offered by the school:

- Payment in full by 5 February with a 5 % discount (i.e. R33 350,00)
- Debit Order over 11 months of R3 191,00 per month per child from:
  - 25 January to 25 November OR 1 February to 1 December
- Monthly payments by Internet transfer, bank deposit or cash, cheque or credit card,
  - 1 February to 1 December, i.e. 11 months at R3 191,00 per month per child.

Both parents, irrespective of their marital status and/or personal arrangements, are liable in law for their child's school fees.

Applications for reduction in school fees, completed by both parents, must be received by the school on the official Alex form before the end of February. Applications received after the end of February will NOT be considered unless personal circumstances, properly motivated, have changed drastically beyond your control. Parents who applied

for a reduction in 2021 must re-apply for 2022. Reductions in school fees do NOT include arrear payments and are granted from the date of receipt of the application. For new applications for admission, a reduction in school fees will only be considered if the completed checklist form attached to the application form indicates that the intention is to apply for such a reduction, or if personal circumstances have changed drastically beyond your control since completing the checklist form.

Kindly note further that this letter serves as a notice in terms of Section 41(5)(a) of the South African Schools Act 84 of 1996. You are accordingly requested to take note of the following:

That unless exempted, you are liable for the payment of the annual school fees as detailed in this circular letter and that the payment of school fees is compulsory. You are furthermore entitled to apply for a reduction, alternatively exemption, of school fees, in which event you are to indicate your intention to apply and whether you require assistance with such application. Applicants must be prepared for an exhaustive investigation, supported by documentary proof, into their financial circumstances and lifestyle.

We are aware that the current economic climate is particularly demanding, but timeous payment of school fees must be your priority for there is nothing more important than your child receiving the quality education you desire from our school. It is unfair that the majority of parents who make personal sacrifices, in order to meet their school fee payments, 'carry' those who simply do not pay.

Should fees not be paid timeously, the school has the right to list you with a relevant credit bureau as a slow payer.

The accounts of parents who default on payment will, without exception, be handed over to our attorneys for collection. Judgment could be taken against either or both parents, for the principal debt with costs, which would result in your being blacklisted.

It may be of great assistance for you to start paying your 2022 fees immediately. Some parents find that this helps to alleviate some pressure off their budget next year.

Please keep yourself and those that you love, safe this week

Regards



Matthew Ridgway  
Principal