



Alexander Road High School

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Dear Alex Family Members

Politics and protest, not for the half-hearted

We have all seen the protests in Ottawa, where people are standing in -20-degree weather to let the government know how they feel about mandated vaccinations for truckers. Tension on the border between the Ukraine and Russia has been at boiling point for some time. Fortunately, we don't have the imminent threat of war on our borders but we all know that the Ottawa protests are spawning new protests in other countries and that if a war were to break out on the Russian border, the consequences would be felt here at home.

The interconnectedness of our world has had so many benefits, but we also felt the impact when supply chains were disrupted over the last two years. I suppose we need to reflect on the good that we experience and create daily and to contextualise the difficulties that arise so that we don't allow the struggles to take centre stage. I hope you have had more that was positive in your week than negative. Please don't forget to see the wonderful.

On to more pragmatic affairs. The second-hand clothing shop is open from 07H30 until 08H15; then at first and second break on Tuesdays and also from 13H00 to 13H30 on Thursdays. I hope the new hours will make it more accessible to you.

We have sent our annual information check to your email accounts. Please check your details and update where needed. It is very important for us to have accurate contact details for when an emergency arises, and we need to get hold of you quickly. If you have not seen the information update email, please check your spam folders.

We have an exciting opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about coding and robotics. Please follow the link codeabot.co.za/scholarship to apply.

We are running a test week from 28 February to 7 March. These are just normal routine class tests, but they are arranged to give us the opportunity to have the whole grade write the test at the same time. There will be no late start on Tuesday 1 March, so please remind your children about the normal start to the day.

We have scheduled the Academic Awards assembly for Tuesday 8 March. These are awards based on the results at the end of 2021. The assembly will start at 07H55. Prize winners will be assembled in the hall and everyone else will join the assembly via live feed on YouTube. This will be the second Tuesday that will not have a late start in a row. Any parents who are keen to join the live feed are welcome to join via <https://youtu.be/NZvTkTCgf44>

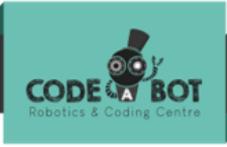
We have made some changes to our planner. If you have the old one currently stuck on the fridge, please discard it and replace it with this one. <https://bit.ly/34Qxdcz>

Our used cooking oil collection is off to a great start. If you have some used cooking oil in your home, please don't throw it down the drain or into the rubbish bin. Please send it to school. Thanks to everyone who has contributed so far.

Our Table of Sharing stock has improved this week. My thanks to everyone who has contributed. If you have the capacity, please pop a tin or some dry goods into your trolley on your shopping expedition. Send those goodies to school, where they can be dropped off at the printing room or with the register teacher. This programme is making a valued difference in the lives of some members of the Alex Family.

Our admissions for Grade 8 in 2023 are blazing along nicely. We have 685 applicants after just three weeks. If you know of anyone who would like to apply to Alex for 2023 in Grade 8, please encourage them to head over to www.arhs.co.za/apply to complete an application. We are sending out the first batch of responses on 28 February. The process will close on 1 April. It will become very difficult to accept new applicants after 1 April.

Please could I appeal again to everyone to stay calm in the traffic that builds outside the school in the mornings. Please adhere to the drop-and-go (<https://bit.ly/367Ph2n>) system, to help keep the road clear. There are still people who are stopping in the road to collect or drop pupils, please avoid this as it creates more anxiety. If you are tempted to execute a U-turn in Alexander Road at peak traffic times, please disabuse



CODING AND ROBOTICS SCHOLARSHIP

CodeABot is offering 4 students the opportunity to win a scholarship for the first year of the Coding and Robotics Bundle.



Hello Alexan.

Are you looking to study Robotics and Programming? Thinking of choosing IT as one of your subjects in Grade 10?

Get a head start!

Apply for a scholarship with CodeABot and you could win the first year of our Coding and Robotics bundle.

Visit our website @ codeabot.co.za/scholarship and apply today.

Applications close 24 February 2022.

yourself of that notion and rather drive around the block. We all want our day to start on a serene note, so let's work together to make that more likely.

Please look after yourself and those you love this week.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Ridgway', written over a thin horizontal line.

Matthew Ridgway
Principal