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Dear Alex Family Members

The serenity of a moment

What seems like a bit of madness is taking in the world at large, pressure is mounting on all sides as we learn to live in a post-pandemic world where superpowers are squaring off, and common sense is rather scarce. You could be forgiven for feeling overwhelmed. Add in a few teenage hormones and some pressure to succeed and we can imagine what our children face at the moment.

As the adults on the scene, we need to keep the calm. We need to provide the stable force that provides foundations and certainty. I know this is a big ask when we are all under such pressure to pay bills and cope with crazy fuel prices and all the pressure of being an adult. Please don't lose sight of the fact that our children need us to be present and available. If you can, please make time some deliberately to be available and to hear actively what they are saying.

It is demanding to create such moments, but they can be absolute gold, if you can get it right. Having and providing a moment of serenity with your child will do them and you the world of good. These moments not only provide a relationship-building opportunity, but they can also fill your emotional bank account, leaving you ready and able to make someone else feel good because you have reserves of emotional energy.

If you have sent me an email this week and I have been slow to respond, or have not yet, please give me a little grace. I will get to your email. I had to send over 500 emails on Tuesday to families whose children probably won't be able to be accommodated at Alex in Grade 8 next year. This is a very distressing time for Grade 7 parents, and it is not fun to hear that you have not been accepted. I need to address every query, and there are quite a few. I will be back to a better response time by next week.

We have had over 900 applications since the start of the process in February. Please encourage anyone whom you know, who is keen to have Alex as an option, to get over to our website to get the application in sooner rather than later.

Action is at an all-term high and as a result we have plenty of achievements to celebrate.

Two of our athletes have made it through to the Eastern Cape Athletics championships:
Luvo Sobekwa for the 400m
Likhaya Mcalu for the 110m hurdles

The following Cricketers have shone so far this term:

Tyler Bergins scored 106 vs Woolhope

Eden Draghoender 70 vs Woolhope

Lisakhanya Mxoxozi scored 86 runs for the first team.

Zaylon Gouza took 5 wickets for 37 in 8.4 overs, also for the first team.

Further congratulations to Iviwe Magaba, who achieved a hat trick against Daniel Pienaar.

We received the certificates for the Woodlands Dairy Showtime awards last year.

These are a bit like the Oscars, only more important. The following performers reached the final round in these categories:

Kalyn du Plessis for Best young personality

Joshua McConrad and Kamva Maramba for Best young singer (Male)

Georgia-Jo Palmer, Kalyn du Plessis, and Palesa Mokoetla for Best young singer (Female)

Hannah Barth, and Matthew Draai for Best young musician

Georgia-Jo Palmer and Riley Meyer for Best young actress

Andre Emery for Best young actor

Grade 11s will be allowed to change one subject this year. They will need to have all the documents and permission in place before the end of this term. If this is a prospect, please have the conversation sooner rather than later. If you support a subject change, please send a letter or email to me telling me what subject they should change from and the new subject as well as the reason for the change. There might be a bit of pressure if you only change after the reports are published on 25 March. Grade 10s have until the end of June to make a subject change.

My sincere thanks to everyone who has paid school fees this year. We can only do most of what we do with your continued support. Please know that the sacrifices that you make every month to pay your fees are not taken for granted by us.

Thanks to everyone who sent us contributions for the table of sharing and to those who have sent used cooking oil for that project. Please keep them coming.

Please keep yourself and those you love safe this week and remember to strive for a moment of serenity with your child.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Ridgway
Principal