



# Alexander Road High School

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17 January 2025

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Dear Alex Family Members

## The welcome back to school newsletter

I am sure that many of you see the back to school advertising and it fills you with dread or anxiety because it indicates that the holiday is over and the realities of 2025 are going to settle in. We all spent our money in December and now have to scrape around to get the stationery lists seen to. I would like to welcome you all back to school in spite of the harsh realities of our economy.

The Alex family is a place of caring and concern. Our community is a wonderful place to be as a result of all the wonderful people who contribute to it on an ongoing basis.

We had a delightful morning on Tuesday with our Grade 8s, our first assembly on Wednesday was bursting with the potential of all of our children. We have the joy of inducting our 2025 Student Leaders on yesterday morning and last night we had the opportunity to spend time with the Student Leaders and their families to get the year off on the right note.

By the time you read this we will have had our welcome braai for the Grade 8 families. I am busy lighting fires as I complete this newsletter. The reason that I have regaled you with the highlights of our week so far is just to focus your attention on how fortunate we are to be engaged in such a wonderful community. I hope that back to school at least offers you a little peace of mind. You don't have to run around after your kids anymore, we will entertain them.... they might even learn something.

## Traffic

I need to draw your attention to the traffic challenges that we all face outside the school. There are a few guidelines that will help you to move more efficiently in the morning and afternoon:

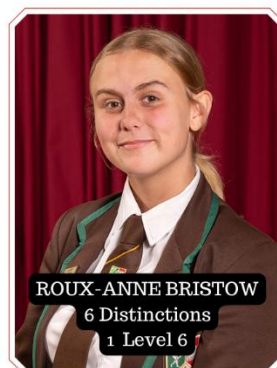
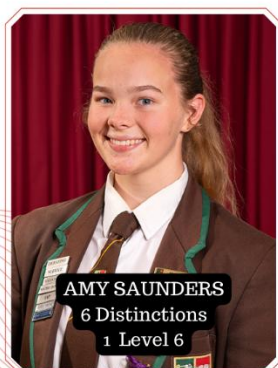
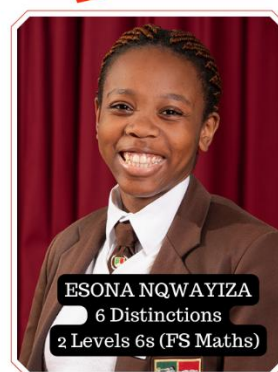
- We operate a drop and go system on both sides of Alexander Road in the morning. Please ignore the angle parking. Just pull off the road, unload and move back into traffic.
- Never execute an U-turn in Alexander Road during peak times. This creates a lot of congestion and is frankly quite unnecessary.
- Never stop in the lane to drop off or pick up a child. This causes a lot of congestion and frustration as well as being illegal.

Remember that you can arrange to meet your children in King Edward st, there is a passage way through Cordingley House near the Clothing shop. There is much less congestion, lots of place to park and it is very easy to rejoin the flow of traffic because there is a 4 way stop at 3<sup>rd</sup> ave.

Please be considerate when you are driving in Alexander Road. All of us need to use the road and if we think about each other.

### Grade 12 results

We are very proud of our Grade 12s from 2024, they generated a fantastic set of results at the end of last year. We were very excited to hand out their results on Wednesday



Well done to all our Grade 12s! We are very grateful to the teaching staff to get them to the level where they could produce the goods.

### Open day 2025

If you know of anyone who is interested in sending their child to Alex in 2026 for Grade 8, please send them the information about the Open days happening the week after next.

They will need to follow this link in order to book a spot:

<https://forms.office.com/r/DACQg2eUU8>

or scan the QR code below:

### Table of Sharing

Please remember our table of sharing. If you could drop an extra item of non perishable food into your shopping basket every month and send it to the printing room. We can put together a care package that goes to an Alex family who is in need. Your support of this fantastic project is very much appreciated.

### Oil recycling

For the environmentally conscious or those who just prefer to do as little harm as possible. Please do not throw used cooking oil into the drains or send it to land fill with your weekly municipal garbage collection. Cooking oil is very long lived in nature, and it is very harmful. Please could you collect it and send it to school. We have a large tank at the fig tree gate. Just get your child to pour the oil into the tank and close it up. We get the oil converted into biodiesel and we use that to run our equipment for maintaining the grounds.



## ALEXANDER ROAD HIGH SCHOOL

Invites all current Grade 7s to our  
**GRADE 7 OPEN  
DAY 2025**  
**WHEN?**  
**28 + 29 January**  
**BY BOOKING ONLY** >>>  
Please book using either method below:

**Booking Link:**  
<https://forms.office.com/r/DACQg2eUU8>

**Scan the  
QR Code:**



**Information:**

☎ 041 365 1270  
✉ [info@arhs.co.za](mailto:info@arhs.co.za)  
🌐 [www.arhs.co.za](http://www.arhs.co.za)



**Letters to sign**

Please look out for the budget forms that I sent home for signing. You should also sign a textbook list and Grade 8s should also see a stationery register. We need all these documents signed by at least one parent. They may be resting in the bottom of your child's school bag, please ask for them.

**Athletics day**

You are all invited to our annual Inter-House Athletics competition on Monday. If you cannot get the whole day off, try to make the first 30 minutes where our House leadership present their displays. These are fantastic. Remember that there is no transport from Alex to The Westbourne Oval. Please get your children to the Oval before 07H45. Remember that traffic down that end of town is quite hectic at that time of day so please leave early in order to avoid the chaos. We will be done by 14h15. They will not be allowed to leave the stadium before the end of the Athletics, so please plan around that. Please send hats and lots of water with them. There is a tuckshop so they can buy more if you need them to.

Please have a fantastic weekend and a productive 2025. I am very excited about this year. We turn 70 and we have much to celebrate.

Please look after yourself and those you love this week.

Regards

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Ridgway', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Matthew Ridgway  
Principal