



Alexander Road High School

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Dear Alex Family Members

The Heritage week newsletter

If you are a men's rugby fan, and a bok supporter, you are probably quite excited about the game last week. If you were supporting the ladies team, then perhaps excited about improved performance but we do love it when our teams win.

We celebrate Heritage Day next week and I mention rugby because that has become a uniting force in South Africa. When Nelson Mandela decided to unite the nation behind the 1995 team while hosting the world cup, not only was that a very shrewd decision but even he could not have anticipated that the boys would go on to win the tournament. Even though not all South Africans are rugby fans, more than most are at least springbok supporters. When we talk heritage, the conversation can easily be hijacked to focus on the ills of the past. We cannot dismiss the past and the continuing impact that it has on our daily lives, but we can tap into the positive energy that unites us and allows us all to celebrate the diversity that we have. The fact is that we may all have diverse histories but we share one future. If we are not united in wanting the best for that future, then we do all of our countrymen a disservice.

We are planning a Heritage day assembly on Friday next week. We will use the time to sample some of our diverse cultures in the Alex Family. I am inviting our children to dress in a way that celebrates their heritage. Please could I ask you all to lend a hand and perhaps add some guidance. We would prefer that people do not dress in ways that highlight negative stereotypes. We would like some creativity. Please ban pyjamas and slippers and onesies. It is not a civvies day so there is no fundraising that will be required. Please don't feel compelled to have them participate. Normal school uniform is perfectly acceptable. I would love it to be a day of celebrating our diversity and our unity. Thank you for your support on the matter.

Congratulations

The following Alexans have been awarded access to the exclusive training camp at Grey High School on the 6th and 7th of October 2025:

- Bailey-Rae Howard
- Kaysen Francis
- Mohammad Baboo
- Khaniysa Lungongolo

We sincerely thank Mr. Lokotch for sponsoring these students and providing them with this valuable opportunity. As a result of our ongoing development programme, many similar initiatives will be coming up, and Alex students will continue to be a priority for access to these opportunities.



We hope that everyone will gain significant international exposure and a meaningful learning experience through this training camp.

Windband and Friends

Please remember that tomorrow evening we are hosting the Windband and some invited guests in the hall. Please join us for the performance if you can. There is not entrance fee and a tuckshop will be running. It promises a wonderful evening of entertainment.

House plays

Our annual House Play Festival is taking place on Tuesday evening next week. Please join us for 3 epic house plays. An enormous amount of effort has gone into the preparation for the evening and it is bound to be spectacular. Tickets are R20 at the door or at the bursar on Monday and Tuesday next week.

Winter Sports awards

We are planning our Winter Sports awards assembly for the 30th of September at 08H00. I will be publishing the list of award winners with next week's newsletter. Please join us for that assembly if you have the time. It would be great if you could join us.

End of Term 3

The last day of this term for children is Thursday the 2nd of October. We are doing staff training on Friday the 3rd. Please take careful note that if your child is in Grade 10 or 11 they will need to attend the careers evening on the 2nd of October. We have drawn people from our city who are willing to spend the evening with our children to explain what their career is about and to answer questions about qualifications and salaries and job descriptions. This is a very valuable time so please make sure that you do not plan to leave on your spring vacation until Friday morning.

Please look after yourself and those you love this week

Yours in education,


Matthew Ridgway
Principal