



WILLOW ACADEMY

A department of Word of Faith Christian Centre

End of Term 2 Newsletter Junior School

Monday, 27 July 2020

Dear Junior School Parents

As we celebrate completing a very successful – yet unpredictable – second term, I would like to express my gratitude to the Willovian Staff, which includes our awesome teachers, administration staff, sports staff, music teachers and cleaners for going the extra mile. We have managed to phase in additional grades, despite severe restrictions, in order to ensure the continued safety of our learners and staff.

Not long into the term we were forced to close our doors for fourteen days. During this time we reviewed and amended our procedures to try to ensure that we did not have to close the whole school should another case materialize. As a direct result of the revised procedures, we were able to keep the high school open when a second case arose in early July.

During the term we have proceeded with teaching via Whatsapp and Google Classroom. Although these online tools have assisted us, we have discovered some learners have completed very few of the tasks provided by their teachers. However, we are grateful to our superstars that have diligently completed all their tasks and made the lives of the teachers much easier in the process.

Please take heart in the following scripture – Isaiah 35:4

“Tell everyone who is discouraged, Be strong and don’t be afraid! God is coming to your rescue...”

Phasing in of additional grades

It is with great excitement that I can announce we will welcome back our Grade 4 and 5 classes in the new term! We can assure all our parents that we have done everything in our power to ensure the safety of our learners. We will send additional communication to all Grade 8 and 9 parents, as there are certain Health and Safety documents that must be completed before learners can return to school.

Term 3 schedule

The third term will commence on **Monday, 3 August**. We will use the first week for consolidation of work done in the previous term.

Date	Tasks	Grade
Monday, 3 – Friday, 7 August	Week 1 will be for revision of Term 2 work and opportunity for Grade 8–10 learners to complete all work in preparation for return to school	Grade 4–7
	Return to school	Grade 6 and 7 ONLY
Monday, 10 August	Public Holiday	School closed
Tuesday, 11 – Friday, 14 August	New work – work packs issued on WhatsApp and Google Classroom	Grade 4–7
	Return to School (days to be confirmed)	Grade 4 and 5
Friday, 18 September	Last day of third term Progress reports to be issued	Grade 4–7

Academic Matters

From the first day of the new term we will impose very strict measures to ensure our learners do not fall behind. As an independent school we aim to excel in what we do, and we do not wish any learner to fall behind and fail to complete the academic year as planned. This can only be done if our learners work diligently and our parents partner with us.

Please take careful note of the following:

1. Learners continuing to use Google Classroom/WhatsApp:
 - a. Where work does not have to be submitted, teachers will issue memorandums for parents/learners to mark and correct the learner’s work when complete.
 - a. Approximately once per two week cycle, learners will be expected to submit an informal assessment set by the subject teacher on the work covered. Completion of this assessment

will count towards a participation mark.

2. Work packs will be continued for all learners in all grades. These will be sent to parents, who must ensure the learner receives the work. Hard copies (printouts) will no longer be provided.
3. **Important:** An attendance register will be maintained for all learners who have returned to school (as indicated by parents who complete the school survey or via telephone conversation with the grade teacher). If a learner is absent, a parent must notify the school and provide a valid reason for their absence.
4. In Term 3, we will endeavour to produce an end of term report. This requires a number of tests and School Based Assessments (SBAs) to be completed; some of which must be completed under controlled conditions **at school**. ALL learners must be present for these tests, and any learners who are absent without a doctor's certificate, will receive a zero for that assessment. Parents will receive at least one week's notice for these "in-school" assessments.
5. Parents will be asked to notify the school in writing, if their child will NOT be returning this year, as we need to make arrangements to support these learners.

May the peace of God rest on all our Willow family as we navigate these uncertain times. Wishing everyone a well deserved break.

Yours in spirit and in truth,



Mrs C Rademeyer
Principal