



From the desk of the Headmaster

Dear Cedarwood Preparatory Parents

As we enter the final eight weeks of the school year, there are a number of upcoming activities:

Calendar

5 October	Teachers Day
10 October	07h30 PTA Meeting
13 October	08h00 PTA DIY & Picnic Day
19-22 October	Half Term
30 October	07h15 Parent Workshop (Thinking Maps)

Teachers Day

On October 5 we celebrate Teachers Day at Cedarwood. It is a day to acknowledge the amazing work these dedicated professionals do at Cedarwood and around the world. They are part of your children's lives and commit themselves to the education and wellbeing of all the children at our school. Please take a moment to thank your child's teacher and acknowledge their selfless dedication.

Extra Mural Timetable

As many parents may be aware, we are now switching many of our Winter Sports activities to Summer Sports activities. Our interschool athletics events now switch to interschool swimming events. Weekly extra mural activities will also now change, where relevant to accommodate the seasonal change.

Homework

Homework is a sometimes controversial and emotive subject that can be a source of conflict at home and at school. Worldwide debate suggests that homework has both positive and negative effects on children and on home life. In a remedial environment homework is a tool for repetition and consolidation, often vitally needed.

In 2019 I would like to invite parents to a workshop to discuss the value (or lack thereof) of homework for children in a remedial environment. Please keep an eye out on the 2019 calendar for this workshop.

Parent Workshops and Fora

This year a number of early morning workshops have been held to inform and educate parents regarding academic matters. On Tuesday 30 October the final workshop for the year will be held in the POD. This workshop will focus on the use of Thinking Maps in the classroom. Next year we intend to expand these workshops to assist parents in understanding some of the details of their child's education.

Thank you for the support thus far. We look forward to seeing even more parents at these workshops in 2019.



From the desk of the Headmaster

Magazine

Our annual school magazine will be distributed to families on 6 December, the final day of school. The cost of R130 will be charged to your school fee account. You will shortly receive a letter in this regard from our bursar, Mr Ellis. If you do not wish to purchase the magazine, please communicate directly to Mr Ellis, the bursar, or Mrs Stapfelt, the assistant bursar, as per their upcoming letter.

Art Exhibition

Congratulations to Mr Tagliatti and his team on a wonderful Art Exhibition. The entire cultural experience of the music and the Art was something the Cedarwood children and staff can be proud of.



End of year activities

As we near the end of the year there are a number of **activities** which will be taking place and a number of requests that will come your way.

Interhouse Gala	16 November 08h00
Grade 6 Farewell Assembly	19 November 07h30
Grade 6 Leavers Dinner	23 November 18h00
Sports Awards Assembly	3 December 08h00
Prize-giving	6 December (FP) 07h30 & (IP) 09h00

Over the next three months you will no doubt be receiving a number of **requests** for money, gifts, donations etc. These requests may come from the school as well as outside organisations. The school is asking for donations towards our end-of-year outreach, the Love Boxes; you may also receive requests from the PTA Class Moms for donations towards the teachers gifts, assistants gifts, grounds and cleaning staff gifts. Please do not feel the need to accede to every request. Choose what is affordable and feasible for you and your family.



From the desk of the Headmaster

School Access

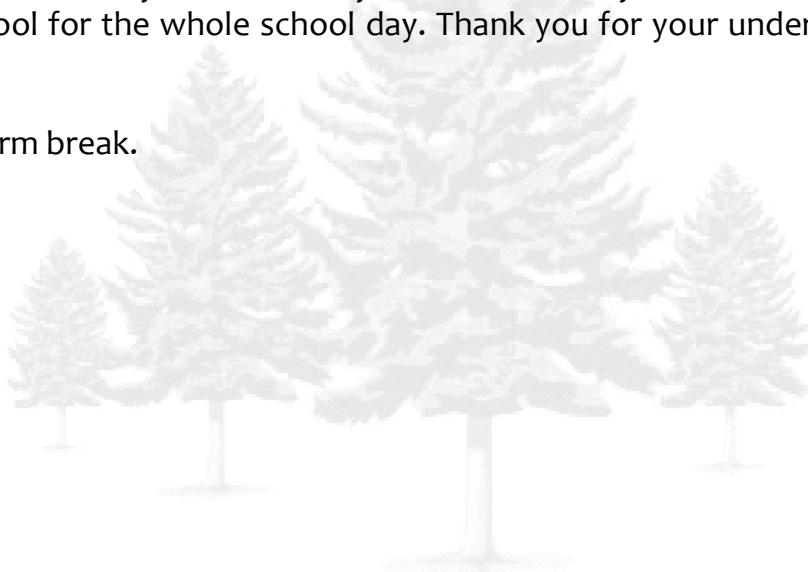
The safety of the staff and children at school is extremely important to us. As a school we need to control access to the school grounds, classrooms and offices, especially during school hours.

If you are fetching your children during school hours, 07h30—13h00/13h45, please report to the office first. If you wish to chat to your child's teacher, therapist, the Head, during school hours, please make an appointment. Please could I ask that during school hours you don't interrupt a class or meeting to talk to a staff member. Most staff are available at the beginning or end of the school day for pop-in, unannounced visits, but are not as freely available during school hours unless an appointment has been made.

Please also be aware of the specific school hours and term dates and days. As an independent school we are legally required to offer a minimum number of school days in a year and a minimum number of hours in a week. We are held accountable to this by the quality assurance body, Umalusi. Please would you make every effort to ensure your child is at school timeously and remains at school for the whole school day. Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Have a great half term break.

Mr D. Bester
Headmaster



Be the Best that You can Be