

From the Desk of the Executive Head...

12-7-2021

Good day to the PEPPS community

It is with a heavy heart and a degree of frustration that I write to you today. These challenging times require us to rise above ourselves and do our best in adverse circumstances. We are obligated to consider the health and safety of everyone while simultaneously prioritising the maintenance of excellent education. This is not an easy balancing act to execute and we can only pray for God's continued grace as we manage to navigate our way through these stormy seas.

On the back of the President's announcement last night the Heads have had a meeting this morning. The following thoughts and decisions have come out of that meeting.

- Limpopo still has rising Covid numbers.
- Children, even young children, are catching Covid.
- We are blessed enough to be a technologically capable school.
- We prioritise excellent education and will therefore endeavour to educate PEPPS pupils on as many of the days scheduled for this year as possible. Missed days result in lost education.
- We acknowledge and regret the inconvenience of the below decisions which are in line with the law of the land.

- The holiday period will not be extended. **We shall teach online from 14-7-2021 until 30-7-2021.** Our hope is to return to campus on 2-8-2021.
- **Lessons will be posted on myHomework by 8h00 daily**, in alignment with the timetable.
- Teachers will be available to **quickly respond to queries between 8h30 and 12h30 on weekdays** and all emails sent outside of those times will be responded to within 24 hours during the week.
- All administration staff will be available to the public, in the office, telephonically or via email, from 8h30-12h30.
- **ECD and Foundation Phase** will have no assessments but work should still be submitted for comment and feedback. Assessing children this young online is not a fair measure of their progress so we shall wait until pupils return to campus to assess their understanding of all the concepts presented. ECD and Foundation Phase teachers will organise at least one Google Meet per week with each pupil. Assistants/Interns may organise additional Google Meets to offer further assistance and support.
- **Grade 4-12** teachers will deliver new work online, in line with the timetable and assess pupils about once a week. Marks will be regularly uploaded onto ADAM so that families can follow the story of each child's progress.
- Some teachers may request that resources are collected from school from time to time.

As always, PEPPS values your support and assistance in helping us through these unusual circumstances. Our hope is that we all take hands together, for the benefit of the pupils, and let us pray that this is a very short bridge over an obstical. We all value face-to-face education and wish to return to campus as soon as it is safe to do so.

God bless you all and keep you safe and healthy.

I know we can do this! We have done it before.



Yours in excellent education,

Annabel Roberts

PEPPS Executive Head