

From the Desk of the Executive Head...

Dear PEPPS Community

11-1-2023

As we embark on a New year, I feel filled with hope and anticipation. Jerimiah 29:11 proclaims that God's plans for our lives include prosperity and hope. He promises that He will be with us when we call upon His name and commits to guiding those who seek His wisdom and governance. Let us embrace God's promises by faith and live obediently until we see these promises come to fruition.



Our theme this year is **RISE UP!** Light and darkness is a prevalent motif throughout the Bible and Light represents God's presence, goodness, favour, grace, power and glory. In response to "Your light has come", we are commanded to "Arise, shine!" It is time to take courage and decide to activate our muscles and will-power to do just that: "ARISE (**RISE UP**) and Shine!" Let us step into that which God has planned for us and shine God's light into a world shadowed by darkness.

My prayer for our PEPPS community: Receive God's light, **Rise Up** and Shine!

PEPPS will not be using myHomework from 2023. We are moving to a new platform called Google Classroom that is easier to access and operate. An email will be sent to parents of pupils from Stage 4 upwards. This correspondence will include login and password details for **your child's PEPPS email account**. The parents will access and follow Google Classroom up to Grade 3. Grade 4s will receive teacher and parental support to become empowered to access and follow for themselves. From Grade 5 upward, pupils should take full ownership of the platform. Parents are encouraged to access Google Classroom with their older children to support them and to keep up-to-date with the work they are doing. The email will include step-by-step instructions on how to join Gmail then subsequently the Google Classroom classes.

PEPPS is an excellent school and, as such, will not cut corners in terms of the number of school days afforded to our pupils annually. We are committed to offering a **value-for-money service**, and so we will stick to the quota mandated to us. Additionally, we commit to teaching and assessing throughout. Please be reminded of the **2023 term dates**. They do differ from other schools and it is important to pay close attention lest your child miss out.

Term	Pupils start on	Pupils end on	Academic days	Academic Staff start on	Academic Staff end on
1	11 January	17 March	45	9 January (Admin - 5 January)	17 March (late)
2	13 April	30 June	53	12 April	30 June (late)
3	19 July	22 September	47	17 July	22 September
4	10 October	6 December	42	9 October	8 December (Admin 12 Dec)

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all PEPPS parents who paid **school fees timeously** last year. We depend on all of our school fees to cover salaries and day-to-day expenses. We

remind parents that fees are in payable in advance and January fees should already have been paid.

A PEPPS education is unique in that it is **progressive** and promotes the **independence** of its pupils. It is encouraging to read current International and National educational research and, when evaluating ourselves against these, to find our practices sound and on the cusp of these trends.

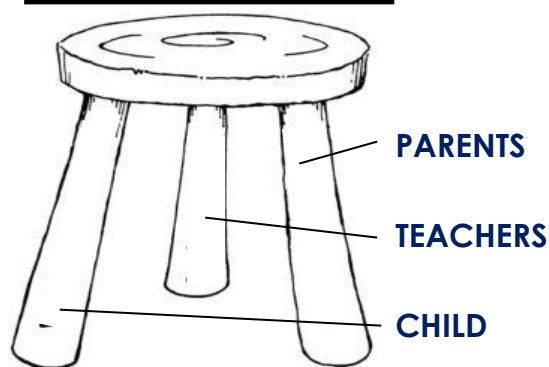
The **2022 Matric results** will be released on 18 January 2023 and we look forward to celebrating the success of the 2022 cohort.

You are invited to attend the **“State of PEPPS” address** that I will deliver to each campus. The dates and times are below:

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|--------------|------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| • Polokwane | 20 February 2023 | 18h00 | Tladi Hall on Plot 2 |
| • Ga Ledwaba | 21 February 2023 | 17h00 | Ga Ledwaba outdoor venue |
| • Mokopane | 22 February 2023 | 17h00 | Mokopane Hall |

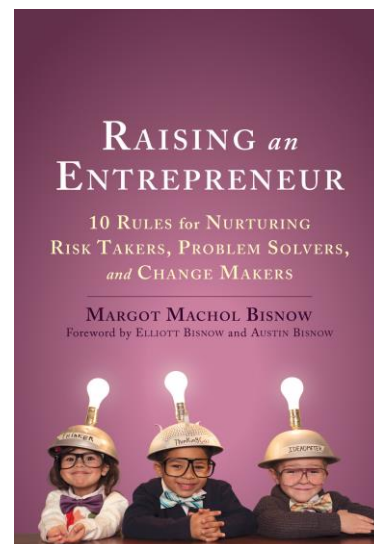
An important aspect of the address is to call upon volunteer parents who will serve as **Parent Forum** members for the year on their respective campuses. As a Parent Forum member, you make yourself available to represent the voice of the parents in your grade at termly meetings with the Head of the school. This means you must be willing to have your contact information shared with the parent body, and that your schedule allows for your attendance at these meetings. It is important to understand that the role is representative in nature and not a platform for extending a personal agenda. If being a **Parent Forum member for 2023** interests you, please contact your school's Head's PA to put your name forward.

Success for your child



A stool with three unequal legs is unstable and ineffective. The three-legged stool represents your child's success and the three legs are the parent, the teacher and the child. Each “leg” must **take responsibility for the child's success**. I invite you to partner with us to lay the ground work for your child's success in life. **TOGETHER** we can develop the necessary skills, nurture sound character, hone discipline and foster confidence. If all parties commit to giving equal effort, the child will succeed.

Margot Machol Bisnow is the author of the book entitled: **Raising an Entrepreneur**. She interviewed 70 parents of highly successful adults in order to find the silver bullet of parenting styles that would increase the likelihood of children growing up to be successful. The critical factor is found in the parent's **attitude**. Every parent of the successful adults interviewed **BELIEVED in** and **SUPPORTED** their child. Resist the urge to dictate and enforce rules. Rather allow freedom to pursue their **OWN PASSIONS**. We do this at school through **Genius Hour** and **Creating Tomorrow** projects. If they love something they will spend the necessary time on it for them to become excellent.

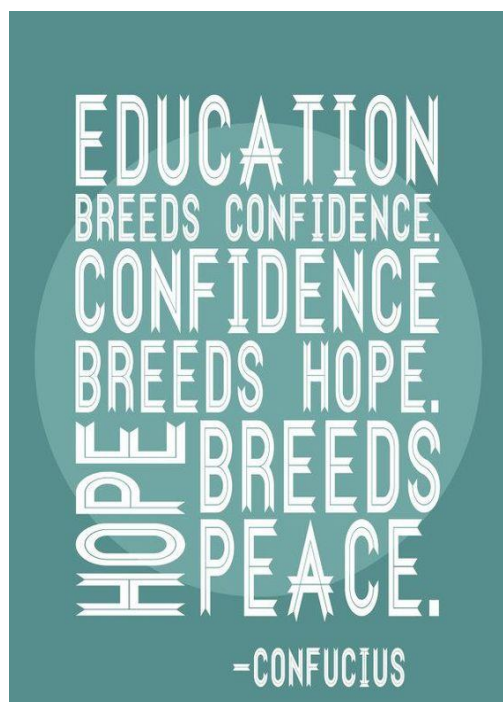




The above is a cartoon summary of some of the thoughts from *Raising an Entrepreneur*. It is a fantastic read that I encourage you to try.

At PEPPS we strive to deal with any challenges swiftly and directly. Should you have a concern, do not hesitate to contact the teacher involved via email immediately to have it resolved. **Teachers' email addresses** are available on Google Classroom. Alternatively, phone your school to make an appointment with the staff member involved.

As we are about to accelerate into our journey, fasten your seatbelt and get ready to enjoy the ride.



Dream Big. Take Courage and Rise Up!



Yours in excellent education

Amanda Korff

PEPPS Executive Head

