

LANNER HOUSE SCHOOL



Learning, Growing, Becoming

NEWSLETTER 15/2010

Dear Parents



Arrogance vs Pride

This past week I was privileged to attend the Wynberg Boys' High School Old Boys Union Annual Dinner. The guest speaker was Professor Kader Asmal, previous Minister of Education, Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry and law professor at the University of the Western Cape.

In his address he challenged the attendees to continue building on the wonderful sense of South African pride that emanated from the World Cup month earlier this year. The national pride that put flags on car mirrors, that flew flags from apartment windows, that united South Africans in stadia and that continues to be spread in the online and offline media needs to be continued. He spoke of the difference between national arrogance and national pride and how the former is often state-driven while the latter is grown from the people.

As he spoke I could not help but think that the national pride of which he spoke could so easily be translated into the pride in our school we are trying to instill in our pupils. We want to develop pupils who hold their heads high in the community, proud to be a Lanner House pupil. We want to see children who wear their uniform neatly inside and outside the school knowing that their appearance reflects on themselves and their school. We want to grow young people who find both friendship and meaning in the relationships they develop while at school. We wish to empower our pupils to ignore the ignorant comments of the misinformed who try to break down the excellent achievements of our school, knowing that actions speak louder than words.

Ultimately we want our pupils to have a deep sense of pride, not arrogance, that they attend a fine institution of teaching and learning. This culture of school pride is developed through three main strategies :

- 1) **Relationships** – building friendships while at school and extending this into a past pupils' association where a true sense of belonging is cultivated.
- 2) **Rules** – applied policies of uniform, discipline and behavior are vital in maintaining a sense of pride in who we are and what we stand for.
- 3) **Respect** – our pupils need to develop a deep-rooted respect for their peers, their elders and their community.

In light of the above I am pleased to let you know that our Past Pupils' Association is in the process of being established, our discipline policy is currently being reviewed by a staff task team and we

continue to cultivate respect for others through our outreach program, our pupil leadership opportunities and our classroom practice.

Pride in our school needs to become deep-rooted in our school culture. It needs to be instilled at school and backed up at home. Our school is a unique place and we can all be proud to be associated with it!

I am a proud Lanner House parent – are you?

Flag Fridays



Inspired by the [LeadSA](#) campaign we will be instituting Flag Friday from next week.

Each Friday we will allow our pupils to add a small South African flag lapel pin to their uniform. We will also allow our pupils to wear a South African flag scarf during winter. Please note that no other items of clothing or jewellery bearing the flag may be worn.

Sport

The public service strike has played havoc with our hockey fixtures and all hockey matches against Robertson Primary were cancelled this week. We will see if we can reschedule these in the coming weeks.

Our girls' hockey team will play an Elkanah touring team on Saturday 18 September.

The Sporting Edge Academy has added martial arts and swimming to its offering. Martial arts begins on 31 August and swimming coaching starts on 5 October. More details are available from Mr Wansbury either at school or at sport@lannerhouse.co.za

Police and Fire Department – PreSchool

The Social Crime Department of the Worcester branch of the South African Police Service will visit our preschool on Monday 23 August.



Our little people will then visit the Fire Station on Wednesday 25 August to discover more about how firemen help us.

Spelling Bee Competition



Thank-you to those who are supporting our Spelling Bee Competition as we raise funds to improve the resources of our Science Department.

I encourage you to assist your child in learning the required words and in sourcing sponsorship for each correctly spelt word.

All Grade 1-8 pupils will participate in an evening of drama productions on 14 September. The children have been working on these productions as part of their weekly drama lessons.

Please see the attached information for further details.

The Helen O'Grady Drama Academy's work with our pupils brings an exciting dynamic to our pupil's weekly curriculum. I am looking forward to a wonderful evening!



You can read more about our school's drama classes on this website: <http://helenogradybosw.blogspot.com/search/label/lanner%20house>

An invitation to YOU and your friends

We will be putting our best foot forward next week on Thursday as we open our doors to our community for our Open Day. The school will be sparkling clean and we will showcase our pupils and teachers to those who visit us.

Please use this opportunity to invite colleagues, neighbours and others with school-going age children to come along and experience and hour or two with us.

Parents who wish to invite parents who are interested in sending their children to Grade 1 in 2011 are able to download an invite here (<http://www.lannerhouse.co.za/datastore/web/files/grade-r-op3n-day-invite-2010.jpg>) and email it to their friends. The Grade 1 program starts at 08h30.

Go on – be proud of our school and bring someone along to our Open Day on August 26. We will open our doors to visitors from 08h00 until 16h30.

This week's calendar

Saturday 21 August - Fix-Up Day (with Bring 'n Braai @ 13h00)

Monday 23 August - Police visit to Preschool

Wednesday 12 August- Preschool visit to Fire Station

Thursday 26 August - Open Day

Enjoy your weekend!

Kind regards

A.Preston
Headmaster



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<http://www.lannerhouse.co.za>