

19 June 2020

The King's Ken



Contact Us!



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From the Principal's desk

The irreplaceable value of in-person instruction

Being back at school has reinforced the great value of class teaching in a learning community of students and teacher. We have seen kids blossom in these three short weeks.

Some of the conversations have been eye-openers.

"Sir, for the first time in six weeks I'm working, actually working."

"But weren't you working on Collaborum in lockdown?"

"Yes, but that gaming icon is right there, and my mom can't check on me all the time."

Another class I visited had this to say:

"To see our teachers and friends in person is awesome!"

"We can ask our questions and we understand much better with the teacher right here."

Teachers are also reporting that students are soaking up class teaching like sponges as they spend time at school again.

I realise that there are some families with children with comorbidities or there is a family member with a comorbidity, but there are also parents that are choosing to keep their children at home due to the fear of community

transmission of the virus. Some schools have insisted that parents provide medical evidence of comorbidity in the home in order to qualify for online teaching but we have opted to use both online and contact teaching in tandem, a hybrid approach. However, we do want to encourage parents that if at all possible, please send your children to school, as it really benefits their educational development.

We understand that this virus is a dangerous one, but let's be guided by the science and the now extensive research to make our decisions. Have a look at how schools in the Netherlands have all students back in school now at <https://www.tes.com/news/all-dutch-primary-pupils-are-back-school-heres-how>

In this week's King's Ken, we will present the teaching plan for the third term starting on the 6th of July and answer some of the questions you may have.

Thank you to everyone in our school community for the wonderful way you have pulled together and the support that you have provided for our teachers. It is so appreciated.

MR. KEN LANGLEY
Principal

PLAN FOR HYBRID CONTACT AND ONLINE TEACHING IN TERM 3

1. We will initially continue to utilize a rotational method of contact lessons in preference to a phase-in of grades for full continuous teaching. In this way, the school complies with the Department's requirement for phased increments of students on campus, but ensures that all grades progress evenly and steadily through curriculum. This also mitigates the risk of virus transmission on campus for students and teachers.

2. The frequency of rotational contact teaching will be increased to three times per week for each grade initially, and then to four and five times a week over time, depending on the course of the pandemic, the rate of local community infection, and the guidance of the Departments of Education and Health.

3. It is vital that we increase the contact times - we know that our strength is contact teaching, however good our online offering may be.

4. Contact teaching will no longer follow a 'flipped classroom' approach, but will be a convergent approach. This means that whatever lesson is taught at school, it will be made available to home students in video recorded format, and classroom handouts will be made available as Collaborum uploads.

5. There will be times that work will be uploaded to Collaborum in advance of a contact lesson, and other times that uploads will be provided on Collaborum after a contact lesson, but teachers will always ensure that students attending contact lessons at school and home students will both receive equivalent teaching in this convergent approach.

6. We have seen massive evidence in the June period of contact teaching that students benefit enormously from in-person instruction, where they can listen to their teacher, respond in dialogue with queries and clarification, and benefit from other classmates' questions too. We will continue to encourage parents to send their children to school for these contact times.

7. Video uploads will either be in the form of recordings of contact lessons or live-streaming of lessons. From time to time, a teacher may choose to create a PowerPoint converted to video as part of their lesson prep, or there may be optional tutorial videos or voicenotes that may be uploaded to Collaborum as well.

8. One of the lessons that we learnt in term two was that in general, the volume of work that students were expected to cover was excessive and we will monitor and adjust where necessary in term three.

9. Certain periods such as PE, Music, Zulu, Knowledge Network, Mentor and others will be omitted from the contact timetable, to allow for consolidation of the core curriculum and to recalibrate after the disruption to the teaching programme.

10. Home students will make use of a drop off and pick up point at the school's security hut in order to drop off tasks and assignments for marking, and will be able to collect their marked work in the same way upon notification by their teacher. Teachers will no longer be able to receive work through WhatsApp or email for marking purposes, unless by prior arrangements with students for particular shorter assignments.

If so many schools in the Western Cape have confirmed infections, doesn't this prove that schools are dangerous places?

Not at all. Schools have put in place some rigorous measures to prevent community transmission, and these infections in Western Cape schools are likely originating from a home transmission. Research from across the globe shows that virus transmission occurs most frequently in crowded, poorly ventilated places and what typically happens is that a parent is infected at work, and then transmits the infection to the rest of the family at home; an infected schoolgoing child then goes to school where the screening station hopefully picks up a raised temperature and refers the student for testing. The screening might then prevent further transmission from that individual which lowers the R0, the rate of transmission in the community.



GOODBYE



From Teacher Jandré Swanepoel

Dear Parents and Learners

As Term 2 comes to an end so will my chapter at The King's School West Rand. I couldn't have predicted that my heart will be filled with so much love and happiness with memories when I started my journey at The King's West Rand in January 2018.

It has been my honour to serve as the Physical Education Teacher for age groups from GR RR to GR 3. During countless PE lessons, I have had the privilege to watch and experience each learner grow into the full potential that God intended them to be.

From the Sport Department, I was able to spend many more hours with each learner and coach them to the best of my ability to compete hard but honour God in all that they do. Thank you for allowing me to be part of your son's / daughter's journey. I will miss each and every one of you.

Thank you to Mr. Langley, The Management Team and all the Staff for the opportunity to become a member of The King's School West Rand family. May God bless The King's School!

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Friendly Reminder: School fees must be paid in advance, before the 7th of each month, 12 Months of the year.



Congratulations

to Miss Lesego Moeng on her engagement to Emilio de Carvalho. May God bless your future.

MOUTHFUL CAFÉ

Re-opening in term 3

We are excited to welcome our students back and offer a service to TKSWR community.



The tuckshop will be following strict health and safety procedures when preparing meals.

- Staff have been trained in health and safety procedures.
- Staff will be wearing face masks/ face shields as well as disposable aprons.
- Surfaces will be cleaned regularly with a disinfectant approved by the food industry.
- Staff will be screened daily at the TKSWR screening station.

Following this we would like to ensure that social distancing is maintained at all times. The line-up has been amended to ensure a single file for the collection/buying of tuck.



Please Note: In case of absenteeism a doctor's note must be provided for all summative assessments (tests, orals, practical assessments etc) missed.

We will be providing:

- a hands free sanitisation station to allow sanitisation before and after purchases.
- a self-scan service to students with Lunchcards to take the extra precaution in avoiding contact between students and staff.



The school would like to limit the cash on premises as much as possible to minimize the possibility of infection.



If a student has lost their Lunchcard please order a new card from the Lunchcard website by clicking on "order replacement card" once you have logged into your profile or contact Lunchcard office Tel: 010 140 1327 Backup line: 082 387 7133 for assistance.

If a learner would like to order a new Lunchcard and had not received a Lunchcard as yet, please email info@lunchcard.co.za with the following information:

- A photo of the student (head and shoulders)
- Name and Surname of the student
- Class
- School



Lunchcard will then issue a new card to the student and have it delivered to the school.

What can we do at home to help the school to lower the risk of virus transmission?

The research stats indicate that 70% of Covid infections arise at home. This is quite logical, since if any of us get infected, the place where we spend the most time in close proximity to others will be at home. We need to practice the strictest levels of hygiene at home, especially handwashing. Parents can help by maintaining Covid prevention disciplines in public places, especially keeping social distance and wearing masks. Please take your child's temperature before sending them to school and if they are sick (even with a simple cold), keep them at home until they recover.

How long will school be disrupted by the pandemic in South Africa?

This difficult to say because the pandemic follows a very predictable course, but different countries showed different time periods for the virus to run its course. However, we see a predictable upslope in infections, a peak and then a predictable downslope. Once we start on the downslope, disruptions to education will slowly become less and less.

How does the opening of schools in South Africa help in the fight against the pandemic?

It helps in the lowering of community transmission of Covid-19, it helps in the recovery of the academic year, it helps with regard to child protection and nutrition and it helps to slow the decline of our national economy. It lowers community transmission through daily screenings of students at schools, as well as by removing students from communities where transmission risks are much higher than at their school. Learning is always sequential and progressive, and resumption of schools helps effective learning to happen. It helps with regard to child protection and nutrition because schools are sometimes the safest place for children and sometimes the only place where children can receive a balanced meal. It helps to slow the decline of our economy because parents are able to return to work. It doesn't help if we prevent Covid infections, yet poor people succumb in their homes to starvation and malnutrition.

I am feeling terribly anxious. Can I send my child to school for just an hour to see what it is like (similar to the school in Holland mentioned in the lead article)?

Yes, this can be arranged. We allowed this in the first week of June to give anxious children (and anxious parents!) a chance to see what it is like and those children and parents reported that it was very helpful to them.

THE SCHOOL WEAR SHOP

Please take note...

1. **UNTIL WE REACH LEVEL ONE APPOINTMENTS ONLY** to avoid queues and to adhere to the social distancing rules. I will only be assisting one parent (family) at a time.
2. Please contact Liza on 072 1083 670 or email ropacc@vodamail.co.za to set up an appointment.
3. Assistance available on Saturdays to accommodate working parents.
4. Wearing of masks is compulsory.
No mask – No entry.
5. Hand sanitiser will be available in the shop for Parents and Children on entry and exit of the shop.

Why does the school prefer posting video recordings of lessons rather than live-streaming of lessons?

Three reasons. One, if there is only one device at home and two students using that device, they can't both watch live-streaming at the same time. Two, recorded lessons allow the student to rewatch certain explanations at their own convenience (we have seen that students in contact lessons have accessed recorded lessons a second time for reinforcing a concept). Three, live-streaming is only as stable as the connection (this is why St Stithians in Johannesburg have opted to record live lessons rather than live-streaming).

HYGIENE GUIDELINES FOR SWOP SHOP/2nd HAND SHOP

Guidelines for the management of the swop shop/2nd hand uniform shop, based on the principles set out by the NCID in the control of Covid-19.

- Surfaces of the shop to be cleaned with household detergent, then disinfected applied to surfaces before the shop opens.
- All surfaces, including floors to be disinfected at the end of each day that the shop is open.
- Gloves to be used when cleaning the surfaces and handling soiled clothing items. Proper personal hygiene to be followed before and after the use of gloves. Correct disposal of gloves to be followed.
- Parents accessing the school grounds will be required to follow the access rules as set out by the school.
- Alcohol-based hand sanitiser to be used on entry to the shop.
- No mask No entry policy to be enforced.
- Maximum of 2 people to be allowed into the shop at any given time.
- Minimum social contact and a safe distance of 1,5m between customers.
- Parents advised to please bring their own bags or packets.
- Parents are requested to please wash any items brought in for exchanging.

Please contact:
Kim 066 521-8717 or Antoinette 061 944-3898



SWOP SHOP

For second hand school items to buy or swop

The shop will be open on **Mondays & Thursdays** from 06:45 to 07:30. Please keep in mind that all items that you want to swop or donate must be in a usable condition. We will not accept clothes that are torn

CONTACT:
Kim 082 339 0640 or
Antoinette 061 944 3898.



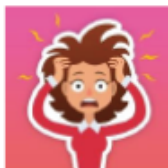
Will there be assessments conducted at school in the third term?

Yes. It is important that we have some standardized testing in the third term and test periods will be scheduled on the timetable.

Please Note: In case of absenteeism a doctor's note must be provided for all summative assessments (tests, orals, practical assessments etc) missed.



PRINT AND DROP



Parents !!!

Don't have a home printer ?

Children's schoolwork needs to be printed ?

Innani Business Solutions is here to help you.

We are offering a special to all our King's School parents.

Drop off all you print jobs at the school and collect the next day from the school, or directly from our office in Honeydew.

Pricing as follows (excluding vat)

B/W Single sided A4 = 95 cents

Minimum - 100 prints

B/W Single sided A3 = R1.90

Minimum - 100 prints

Colour Single sided A4 = R3.50

Minimum - 10 prints

Colour Single sided A3 = R7.00

Minimum - 10 prints

Double-Sided prints will be charged @ double the above pricing.

For all your printing requirements, please contact Carol Katsaros at 011 794 8095, or email : carol@innani.co.za.