

Principal's Weekly Newsletter Edition 2 3 July 2020



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Dear Parents & Guardians,

We live in unprecedented times and for a large part, we are in essence, in the dark about a lot of issues and we can but feel our way forward. We learn as we go forward. We have engaged the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health regarding the reopening of schools and have also had extensive advice from ATS on the possible way forward. I am truly grateful for their input, but as I have said, we are all facing a situation novel to all of us. So please be aware and understanding of all this.

Please take note of the following:

- Hillcrest Schools will have a short break to give teachers, students and, I am sure, parents a break from Online Lessons from Friday the 10th July till Sunday 26th July inclusive.
- Reports will be written for all students at Hillcrest. These reports will provide brief feedback regarding the progress of your child for the Online Learning provided to date.
- Based on the information available, **School will resume**as per the schedule below:

COLLEGE

Examination Classes (Form 4, 'AS' and 'A' Level students) – Tuesday 28th July Form 3 Classes – Monday – 17th August Form 1 & 2 Classes – Monday 7th September

PREP SCHOOL

Grade 7 Classes – Tuesday 28th July
Grade 6 Classes – Monday 17th August
Grade 3 - 5 Classes – Monday 7th September
Grade 1 & 2 – Monday 28th September
ECD- Probably around the 12th of October (TBC)

- Borders will need to return to school the day before classes resume.
- For those Examination Candidates or students who reside out of the country, we are trying to find out ways to get them back to the schools or alternatively try to find convenient examination centres.
- Mid-Year Examinations will be held for the College from the first Monday after they
 return this applies to all classes. For the examination classes this means their MidYear Examination will start on the 3rd of August. It is likely that some students may
 not return, and we will consider an Online Learning option for them.

- Mid-Year Examinations for the Prep School will start on the second Monday after students return to the school.
- Revision of work covered prior to their return to school is important if they are to do
 well and should not be left to the last minute.
- It is **important that online assignments are done**; it provides us with material we can use to predict an objective grade for examination classes with the proof Cambridge will require should this be necessary. For non-examination classes, it allows us to make assessments on the progress of your child.
- Please note that the Prep School Allied Arts Scripts are to be submitted online to the Class Teachers as soon as possible
- As a result of the Asmasol team visit, which helped us set up various systems for when schools do open, I will be sending out some information for parents and students to be aware of and observe in order to reduce the risk of catching the corona virus.
- The Form 1, 2021 CAP Examinations are due to be held on the 1st of August at Hillcrest College and Murray MacDougal School in Triangle. Registration will be at 7.30am and the examination will start at 8.00am.
- Hillcrest usually provides a transport service during school times. With the social
 distancing required it may necessitate several trips to take students to and from the
 schools. I am not really keen on this as it all takes time and puts a strain on our
 buses. If any parent can help with ideas or suggestions in this regard it would be
 appreciated.

Meanwhile, enjoy the break, keep safe and healthy and I look forward to finally meeting the students and parents of Hillcrest Schools.





A woman's touch: I would like to acknowledge Ms Matilda Mukondiwa for keeping the Admin block garden beautiful

Regards,

Orlando Fernandes Principal – Hillcrest Schools