



Dear Parents & Guardians,

Today, I would like to focus on the voting issue before us. Voting is a method used by a group of people in order to make collective decisions or to express an opinion following discussions or debates. It is especially needed in schools to give the parent body a voice especially with regards to fee setting. An abstention simply means that one has no strong opinions either way. I would like to believe that parents do have opinions, an opportunity is presented where every parent has a voice and I would like to hear it whichever way it goes. You are an integral part of Hillcrest Schools and your opinions matter.

1. Voting

Please can I ask parents to cast their votes with regards to the proposed fee schedules sent out last week. I would like to see a total of at least 200 votes. I thank you in advance for your time and cooperation.

2. Online Lessons

There have been several teething issues to do with Online Lessons, primarily centered on the registration of students in their various subjects and classes. Please do communicate if you face such challenges or other issues to do with Online Lessons.

3. L6 Subject Selection

Accompanying this newsletter are the L6 Subject Options. If the returning Lower 6 Students have not made this known to their Line Head Ms. Nyanhanda on email, please do so over the weekend without fail. Her email address is nyanhandab@hillcrestcollege.net. We will have a brief orientation for the pupils from 8.00am up to 10.00am on Monday 24 January. Lessons will then start at 10.40am.

4. Book Packs

For the Form 1, 3 and Lower 6 Students who require textbooks from the school please make arrangements with your individual subject teachers to come and collect books from the school.

5. Camps

Camp dates for the Form 1 & Lower Students remain unchanged. We will alert you if there are any changes. We will also update you concerning the camps that were supposed to happen last year and were postponed to this year because of the Covid-19 restrictions. For now, these are still tabled to take place with a possible change in dates.

6. IGCSE Results

The Cambridge IGCSE results for 2021 are out. We had an overall 76% subject pass rate. Good pass rates were obtained in the following subjects:

Agriculture – 100%

Technical Graphics – 100%

Extended Mathematics – 96%

Extended Biology – 95%

Design & Technology – 94%

Extended Chemistry – 93%

Computer Science – 90%

English Language – 90%;

French – 88%

Accounts – 87%

Physics – 85%

My congratulation to the staff and pupils who contributed to these results.

The outstanding students were:

- | | | | |
|------|-----------------------|---|---------------|
| i. | Tanaka Chapfunga | - | 9A*s |
| ii. | Ithemba Ndakavambaani | - | 8A*s & 1A |
| iii. | Panashe Nhenga | - | 6A*s & 3As |
| iv. | Tinashe Nemacha | - | 6A*s & 3As |
| v. | Tapiwanashe Mutsemi | - | 1A*, 7As & 1B |

OFF MR. RYAN VICKERY'S DESK

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Welcome to the Hillcrest first term of 2022, from all our teaching and support staff. Online learning has been in operation for a week now and I urge you to contact your class teacher if there are any challenges that you are experiencing.

We are concentrating on making sure that this is as pain free for our parents as we try to navigate our way through the syllabus, part of which is being covered now online.

I prefer to call this cycle that we have found ourselves in, "distance learning".

How do we go about this?

Our staff at the prep school have been asked to ensure that work is sent out to students in the following manner.

- 1) **Using Google classroom.** Please do not **confuse the class code** used to join/sign in to Google classroom **with the link** supplied to join various lessons at the given time.
If you are struggling please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher or the specialist subject teachers for Art, ICT (Computers), Music, Physical Education, Shona as advised.
- 2) **Using Whatsapp.** Google Classroom is the preferred method of engagement with students, but work is posted on whatsapp by the teacher on a read only class group for your convenience. Work done by students is accepted by our teachers to their personal whatsapp numbers, but please note that a marked score using whatsapp is not efficient. Work using whatsapp will be read through and a comment made. The teachers may chat live to your students, but obviously the Google Classroom is the best method of contact.
Using whatsapp is a very effective way of getting the job done too.
- 3) **Work Packs:** An arrangement can be made for you to collect work packs from the school and return it the next week when you can collect another.
PLEASE note, that this must be organised with your teacher well in advance so that adequate time is given for the preparation.

Should anybody have any suggestions for us on how to improve our online service to you, do not hesitate to contact us.

Please ensure that when your son or daughter returns to school, they bring all the work done during online with them to school. It is vital that CALA work is kept separate from the rest.

Yesterday there were 568 whatsapp messages for our teachers to navigate their way through.

So far today, there are 157!

I will keep today's minute brief and sign off wishing you a happy and safe weekend with your families.

"Simba Mate"

'Energy to serve which is inexhaustible'

**The habit of saying thank you is the
mark of a cultivated mind.**

- Gordon B. Hinckley

Kind regards,

Rickery
Ryan Vickery
Headmaster



**HILLCREST
PREPARATORY**

O. Fernandes.

ORLANDO FERNANDES
PRINCIPAL – HILLCREST SCHOOLS