



Principal's Newsletter

6th May, 2022

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We are certainly living in interesting times; perhaps that is poorly phrased and I should really say we are going through a period of testing. Inflation that keeps rising brings with it many concerns. How are we going to manage? Although we have been through several similar situations in the past it does not make the current situation any more bearable. Many people rely on their own strength and ingenuity to help them deal with their issues, this is often exhausting and takes a toll on our mental wellbeing over time. We often forget, until we hit a crisis, that at our foundation we have a strong pillar, a rock, a source of strength and wisdom – I am talking about God. When a crisis hits us, we tend to blame God for it instead of deriving our strength, wisdom and comfort from Him. I would like to leave you with a few words of encouragement from the bible;

Proverbs 12:25 – An anxious heart weighs down a man, but a kind word cheers him up.

1 Peter 5:7 – Cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Philippians 4:6 – Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanks-giving let your requests be made known to God.

Matthew 11:28-30 – Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

1. BEGINNING OF TERM & SCHOOL FEES PAYMENT

I would like to thank everyone who made the effort to come through to the office on Friday last week and on Monday before the first day of School to make school fees payments. The congestion we normally experience on the morning of the first day of school was very minimal this time and the process of payment and receipting was more efficient.

2. TRANSPORT TO & FROM SCHOOL

Let me start by apologizing again for the lack of service to our students this past week because our buses were in Harare for servicing. I am glad to advise, however, that with effect from Monday 9th May, our buses will be back on the road plying both the Town and Dangamvura/Chikanga Routes at the normal times. Please make sure that students intending to board the school buses have Bus Passes with them.

3. WINTER UNIFORM

The cold weather has not subsided and students should wear the Winter Uniform with immediate effect and it is compulsory that everyone wears their Winter Uniform for the rest of Term 2 and interchanging with the Summer Uniform is not acceptable.

4. SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please find accompanying this Newsletter our Term 2 Internal Calendar for your information. If any changes are made during the course of the term, these will be highlighted in the Week Ahead weekly notification.

5. ACADEMICS

We are happy to advise that we recently received the Cambridge High Achievers' Awards recipients for exams that were written in 2021. We congratulate the following students for their excellent performance;

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|------|-------------------|---|--|
| i. | Sharon Marufu | - | Top in Zimbabwe for IGCSE English Language |
| ii. | Takada Takadu | - | Top in Zimbabwe for IGCSE French |
| iii. | Tatenda Chemwaita | - | High Achievement in 'AS' Level Global Perspectives |
| iv. | Mpho Tsvakanyi | - | Top in the World in 'AS' Level Travel & Tourism |

6. SPORT

• Hockey & Rugby

The rest of the results from Saturday 30th April, 2022 from the Hockey Girls' & Boys' 1st Teams playing at the Gateway Hockey Festival and the Rugby 1st Team playing at the St Johns' Derby Tournament in Harare were as follows;

- Rugby

1st Team Vs Eaglesvale - Won 21 – 7

- Hockey

Girls' 1st Team Vs Watershed - Won 2 – 0

Girls' 1st Team Vs Gateway - Won 1 – 0

Boys 1st Team Vs Petra - Lost 2 – 0

Boys' 1st Team Vs Gateway - Won 2 – 1

• Athletics

We congratulate the following boys for doing well at the National Athletics Association of Zimbabwe (NAAZ) Junior Championships held at the National Stadium on Saturday 30th April;

- Panashe Nhenga (Gold in the U20 100m & 200m Sprints)
- Anesu Makuwatsine (Gold in the U20 110m & 400m Hurdles)

• Forthcoming Fixtures

Our Girls' 1st, U16, U15 and U14 Hockey Teams play Arundel tomorrow, Saturday 7th May at home. We wish them all the best and it would be good to see parents come out to the school to support the children. The matches start at 9.00am.

7. COVID-19 VACCINATION

All the students who received their first dose last term received, today, their second dose from the Ministry of Health. The exercise went on well.

8. THE WEEK AHEAD

Please find accompanying this letter the Week Ahead.

I would like to take this opportunity to make special mention of the mothers and those who play motherly roles in one way or another, and wish you all a pleasant weekend. Thank you for the love and attention you give and express to those around you and may you be celebrated every day and not only on Mothers' Day. May God bless you all.

Do have a good weekend.

Kind regards,



ORLANDO FERNANDES

PRINCIPAL – HILLCREST SCHOOLS