



Brackenhurst Primary School



Newsletter 4/2019 4 February 2019

Dear Parents,

Quote for the Week:



SCHOOL TERMS 2019

Term 1:	9 January – 15 March
Term 2:	2 April – 14 June
Term 3:	9 July – 20 September
Term 4:	1 October – 4 December

SCHOOL TIMES

Please note the following school times:
Grade 1 – 2: 07:50 – 13:30 every day
Grade 3 – 7: 07:50 – 14:00 every day

INTER-SCHOOLS ATHLETICS – THURSDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2019

We will once again be participating in the annual English Primary Schools Inter-schools athletics meeting this year. This event is scheduled to take place on **Thursday 7 February** at Dinamika High School (Kenton Primary School will be hosting).

Since our athletics team consists of upwards of 80 pupils, and several of our teachers are required to officiate at this meeting, it becomes impossible to run a normal school day.

We will have a skeleton staff of teachers on duty and your child will be kept occupied with revision activities for the day, but unfortunately, no formal teaching can take place. If you are able to make alternative arrangements for your child for the day, you may do so.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE SCHOOL UNIFORM

PARENTS PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

We would like to bring to the parents' attention the following about our uniform system from January 2019:

At the AGM held on 31 October 2018, it was approved to amend the following to the uniform system of Brackenhurst Primary...

Amendment to the School Uniform policy (Items 47 and 48 of the Code of Conduct).

- With effect from the 9th of January 2018 learners may now elect to wear either the school uniform as outlined in Item 47 of the Code OR they may wear the Physical Education Uniform as outlined in Item 48 of the Code.
- The School reserves the right to direct learners to wear their full school uniform, such as at Merit Assemblies, Honours Evenings and Photo days.
- Parents are requested to ensure that whichever uniform the learner is wearing still conforms to the Code and is neat and presentable.
- The School has introduced a Red physical education shirt and is no longer selling the White ones. We will be phasing out the white shirts, save for 1st team Cricketers who must play in all white.
- The School has introduced a black PE skort (a combination of shorts and a skirt) for the girls in addition to the PE shorts. This may be purchased from the sports office at school. The skort is part of the PE uniform for girls.
- **PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU FOLLOW THE RULES REGARDING WHAT IS WORN AS THE PE KIT. IF INCORRECT WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO STOP YOUR CHILD FROM WEARING PE UNIFORM AND ASK FOR THEM TO COME IN THE NORMAL SCHOOL UNIFORM.**

SCHOOL FEES 2019 – R13 882,00

OPTION A (payable by 31/3/2019) – R11 800,00
Monthly payment – R1 262,00 per child

SICK CHILDREN

If your child is sick, please do not send them to school. Many things are contagious such as flu, tummy bugs (which includes vomiting), chickenpox,

measles, ringworm etc. We realize it's not always possible to keep them at home, however it is preferred.

NEWSLETTER AND SCHOOL COMMUNICATOR

We will only send out hard copies of the newsletter to parents who have submitted a written request to the register teacher. The newsletter will be available via the Communicator and can also be downloaded from the website, www.brackenprim.co.za. The newsletter will also be downloaded on the children's tablets.

PLEASE MAKE USE OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNICATOR

The school's newsletter is published every Friday during the school term. Then newsletter can be accessed via the following:

- 1) Your child's tablet (Grades 4 – 7). The newsletter can be downloaded onto their device on a weekly basis.
- 2) The School's website: www.brackenprim.co.za/newsletter-archive.
- 3) The communicator app for PC or Laptop – download the software from www.d6.co.za/education/downloads.
- 4) The communicator app for your Smartphone – download the D6 communicator app from your mobile app store.

The D6 School Communicator is a software programme that will ensure reliable and up to date communication with you, the parent/guardian. This programme is simple and easy to use and can be installed on your home and/or work computer/s and/or smartphone. This will allow us to keep you up to date on a daily basis as to what is happening at school.

Should you have any queries, please contact Mr Fabel or Mrs Bombardella on (011) 900-1000.

WE ARE STRUGGLING TO GET HOLD OF YOU!

Please update your CONTACT DETAILS using the D6 SCHOOL COMMUNICATOR CONSOLE as follows: (4 EASY STEPS)

Step 1: Open the Brackenhurst Primary School Communicator

Step 2: Select MY DETAILS on the left hand menu

Step 3: Complete the form with as many details as you can (scroll down to add your address and medical aid info)

Step 4: Click SAVE

E-LEARNING LEVY

E-Learning Levy for Grades 4 – 7 is **R350.00**. Please make payment for this levy as soon as possible. If we do not receive this levy, we will not be able to load the software onto your child's tablet and they will continue working from hard copy text books.

An annual levy of **R250.00** per child for learners Grade 1 – 3 will be paid as soon as possible. This will cover the cost of the trolley solution with tablets we have purchased for our Foundation Phase learners.

All new parents please note that the **e-levy is included in the enrolment fee which would have been paid when you enrolled. The INITIAL e-levy amount payable is R400 for all new applications (regardless of the grade) so parents need not pay an additional R250 for Foundation phase and R350 for Intersen and senior phase.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

IF YOU PAY THE R350,00 (INTERSEN PHASE) OR R250,00 (FOUNDATION PHASE) VIA EFT, REFERENCE TO BE USED IS YOUR CHILD'S NAME AND SURNAME AND E-LEVY.

DO NOT PAY THIS AMOUNT WITH YOUR SCHOOL FEES.

IT MUST BE A SEPARATE PAYMENT. IF YOU PUT THE PAYMENT THROUGH WITH SCHOOL FEES IT WILL NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO E-LEVY.

INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARD LEVY

A levy of R100,00 per child per year is payable for the **maintenance** of interactive whiteboards during the course of 2019.

Please send the money as soon as possible in a clearly marked envelope **"WHITEBOARD LEVY"** and your child's name and hand it in to your child's register teacher. **PLEASE DO NOT DO AN EFT FOR THE WHITEBOARD LEVY.**

ACADEMIC**CYCLE DAYS – TERM 1:**

DAY	DATE
5	Monday, 4 February
6	Tuesday, 5 February
7	Wednesday, 6 February
<i>Interschool Athletics</i>	Thursday, 7 February
1	Friday, 8 February
2	Monday, 11 February
3	Tuesday, 12 February
4	Wednesday, 13 February
5	Thursday, 14 February
6	Friday, 15 February

CYCLE TESTS – TERM 1

DATE	GRADE	SUBJECT
Tuesday, 12 February	4 – 7	English
Wednesday, 13 February	4 – 7	Afrikaans
Thursday, 14 February	4 – 7	Mathematics
Friday, 15 February	4 – 6	NS & Tech
	7	NS
Monday, 18 February	4 – 7	History
Tuesday, 19 February	4 – 7	Geography
Wednesday, 20 February	4 – 7	EMS
Thursday, 21 February	7	Technology

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**Athletics**

Athletics practices have begun again. There will be morning practices every morning until Interschool.

After school practices are as follows:

Sprints: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Juniors 13:30 – 14:15

Seniors 14:30 – 15:15

Long Distance: Tuesdays and Thursdays 14:30 – 15:15

Well done to all the athletes that ran at the friendly meeting at President Steyn. All the athletes ran exceptionally well.

Well done to the relay teams that ran at the Relay meeting at Alberton High School.

The Girls came 4th overall

The Boys came 5th overall

Brackenhurst Primary finished 4th overall

Interschool's will be held on the 7th of February hosted by Kenton Primary School at Hoërskool Dinamika.

Tennis

Free Tennis will begin on the Monday 14th of January for more information contact Coach Rudolph on 064 525 1665.

Touch Rugby

Touch rugby has begun.

Practices:

1st Team Girls: Mondays and Wednesdays 14h30 – 16h00

2nd Team Girls: Wednesdays and Thursdays 14h30 – 16h00

1st Team Boys: Tuesdays and Thursdays 14h30 – 15h30

2nd Team Boys: Tuesdays and Thursdays 14h30 – 15h30

Chess

Practices are held as follows:

Mondays Gr 3 – 7 from 14:15 to 15:00

Tuesdays Gr 1 – 2 from 13:45 to 14:30

Gr 3 – 7 from 14:30 to 15:30

Wednesdays Gr 1 – 2 from 13:45 to 14:30

Thursdays Gr 3 – 7 from 14:15 to 15:00

House Shirts

Please contact Alice Lombard on 083 397 5705 for any orders/queries regarding House T-Shirts.

PLEASE NOTE: Only the house T-shirt may be worn on Fridays. NO OTHER SHIRTS WILL BE ALLOWED.

The cost of the shirts is as follows:

Children's Shirts:	R75,00
Adult's Shirts:	R90,00

The division for the houses is according to the month in which you were born:

MARS (Red): January, February, March, April
 JUPITER (Yellow): May, June, July, August
 VENUS (Blue): September, October, November, December

PE Uniform

See advertisement at the end of this newsletter.

Brackenhurst Primary sport kit also on sale at the Sports Office **every Wednesday morning 07:00-07:45**

Learners are welcome to buy the uniform any day during their breaks.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Term 1 collection:

Coin Collection

Please collect daily and send on Fridays to:

Juniors – Ms Tambellini

Seniors – Ms Palm

Term 1 will be for the Moebius-Syndrome Foundation. Please try to bring R10 over the course of the term. Every cent makes a difference :)

Please see the link: <https://ghr.nlm.nih.gov/condition/moebius-syndrome>

Orphanage Easter Visit

Please donate Easter eggs of any kind, especially marshmallow for our visit to brighten some special kiddies' day! Please send to Ms T Capell's class for collection.

Care Pack Civvies

This year, civvies will be held on 8 March and 2 August. Please bring toiletry item required for your child's grade.

Gr 1 - Soap

Gr 2 - Bath sponges/cloths

Gr 3 - Toothpaste

Gr 4 - Toothbrushes

Gr 5 - Face cloths

Gr 6 - Girls' deodorant

Gr 7 - Boys' deodorant

LSEN - Any item above.

Bread Tags and Bottle Tops

Please send lots so we can donate a wheelchair! We are on a ROLL! (Pun intended ☺) Please send to Mrs. K. Robinson's class.

Hidden Treasures

Please send second-hand toys, clothes, appliances, books, bedding, etc. All money raised goes towards feeding orphans. If you'd like to volunteer at the shop on Saturdays, please see DOJO school story for details. Please send to Mrs. K. Budde's class.

SPCA

Please send newspapers, blankets, pet food (wet or dry), soft leads and collars (no chains please), pet toys, food and water bowls and donations to Mrs. Robinson (G31). All items will then be dropped off at the Alberton SPCA.

Your contributions will go a long way and is so appreciated.

GENERAL

Tuck Shop

Attached to the newsletter is the full Tuckshop Menu

'Help-U' Advertiser:

The 'Help-U' advertiser is published once a month at the end of the month. The cost of an ad is R50,00 per month. If you want to advertise in the 'Help-U' Advertiser, please forward details together with the money to Colette Kruger at the school office. No pictures – just wording.

PARENTS' CORNER

10 Ways to Help Your Child Succeed in Primary school

Support from parents is key to helping kids do well academically. Here are 10 ways parents can put their kids on track to be successful students.

1. Attend Parent-Teacher Conferences

Kids do better in school when parents are involved in their academic lives.

Attending [parent-teacher conferences](#) is another way to stay informed. These are usually held once

or twice a year at progress reporting periods. The conferences are a chance to start or continue conversations with your child's teacher, and discuss strategies to help your child do his or her best in class. Meeting with the teacher also lets your child know that what goes on in school will be shared at home.

Keep in mind that parents or guardians can request meetings with teachers, principals, school counselors, or other school staff any time during the school year.

2. Visit the School's Website

Knowing the physical layout of the school building and grounds can help you connect with your child when you talk about the school day. It's good to know the location of the main office, sick room, tuck shop, gym, athletic fields, playgrounds and special classes.

On the school website, you can find information about:

- the school calendar
- staff contact information
- upcoming events
- testing dates

3. Support Homework Expectations

[Homework in primary school](#) reinforces and extends classroom learning and helps kids practice important study skills. It also helps them develop a sense of responsibility and a work ethic that will benefit them beyond the classroom.

In addition to making sure your child knows that you see homework as a priority, you can help by creating an effective study environment. Any well-lit, comfortable, and quiet workspace with the necessary supplies will do. Avoiding distractions (like a TV in the background) and setting up a start and end time can also help.

A good rule of thumb for an effective homework and/or study period is roughly 10 minutes per elementary grade level. Fourth-graders, for example, should expect to have about 40 minutes of homework or studying each school night. If you find that it's often taking significantly longer than this guideline, talk with your child's teacher.

While your child does homework, be available to interpret assignment instructions, offer guidance, answer questions, and review the completed work. But resist the urge to provide the correct answers or complete the assignments yourself. Learning from mistakes is part of the process and you don't want to take this away from your child.

4. Send Your Child to School Ready to Learn

A [nutritious breakfast](#) fuels up kids and gets them ready for the day. In general, kids who eat breakfast have more energy and do better in school. Kids who eat breakfast also are less likely to be

absent, and make fewer trips to the school nurse with stomach complaints related to hunger.

You can help boost your child's attention span, concentration, and memory by providing breakfast foods that are rich in whole grains, fiber, and protein, as well as low in added sugar. If your child is running late some mornings, send along fresh fruit, nuts, yogurt, or half a peanut butter and banana sandwich. Many schools provide nutritious breakfast options before the first bell.

Kids also need [the right amount of sleep](#) to be alert and ready to learn all day. Most school-age kids need 10 to 12 hours of sleep a night. Bedtime difficulties can arise at this age for a variety of reasons. Homework, sports, after-school activities, TVs, computers, and video games, as well as [hectic family schedules](#), can contribute to kids not getting enough sleep.

Lack of sleep can cause irritable or hyperactive behavior and might make it hard for kids to pay attention in class. It's important to have a consistent bedtime routine, especially on school nights. Be sure to leave enough time before bed to allow your child to unwind before lights out and limit stimulating diversions like [TV, video games, and Internet access](#).

5. Teach Organizational Skills

When kids are organized, they can stay focused instead of spending time hunting things down and getting sidetracked.

What does it mean to be [organized at the elementary level](#)? For schoolwork, it means having an assignment book and homework folder (many schools supply these) to keep track of homework and projects.

Check your child's assignment book and homework folder every school night so you're familiar with assignments and your child doesn't fall behind. Set up a bin for papers that you need to check or sign. Also, keep a special box or bin for completed and graded projects and toss papers that you don't need to keep.

Talk to your child about keeping his or her school desk orderly so papers that need to come home don't get lost. Teach your child how to use a calendar or personal planner to help stay organized. It's also helpful to teach your child how to make a to-do list to help prioritize and get things done. It can be as simple as:

- 1) *homework*
- 2) *soccer*
- 3) *put clothes away*

No one is born with great organizational skills — they need to be learned and practiced.

6. Teach Study Skills

Studying for a test can be scary for young kids, and many educators assume parents will help their kids

during the grade-school years. Introducing your child to study skills now will pay off with good learning habits throughout life.

In primary school, kids usually take end-of-unit tests in math, spelling, science, and social studies. Be sure to know when a test is scheduled so you can help your child study ahead of time rather than just the night before. You also might need to remind your child to bring home the right study materials, such as notes, study guides, or books.

Teach your child how to break down overall tasks into smaller, manageable chunks so preparing for a test isn't overwhelming. You also can introduce your child to tricks like mnemonic devices to help with recalling information. Remember that taking a break after a 45-minute study period is an important way to help kids process and remember information.

Your child probably will be introduced to standardized testing in primary school. While students can't really study for standardized tests, some teachers provide practice tests to help ease students' worries.

In general, if studying and testing becomes a source of [stress](#) for your child, discuss the situation with the teacher or school counselor.

7. Know the Disciplinary Policies

Schools usually cite their disciplinary policies (sometimes called the student code of conduct) on the website. The rules cover expectations, and consequences for not meeting the expectations, for things like student behavior, dress codes, use of electronic devices, and acceptable language.

The policies may include details about attendance, vandalism, cheating, fighting, and weapons. Many schools also have specific policies about [bullying](#). It's helpful to know the school's definition of bullying, consequences for bullies, support for victims, and procedures for reporting bullying.

It's important for your child to know what's expected at school and that you'll support the school's consequences when expectations aren't met. It's easiest for students when school expectations match the ones at home, so kids see both environments as safe and caring places that work together as a team.

8. Get Involved

Whether kids are just starting kindergarten or entering their last year of primary school, there are many [good reasons for parents to volunteer at school](#). It's a great way for parents to show they're interested in their kids' education.

Many grade-schoolers like to see their parents at school or at school events. But follow your child's cues to find out how much interaction works for both of you. If your child seems uncomfortable with your presence at the school or with your

involvement in an extracurricular activity, consider taking a more behind-the-scenes approach. Make it clear that you aren't there to spy — you're just trying to help out the school community.

Parents can get involved by:

- being a classroom helper or homeroom parent
- organizing and/or working at fundraising activities and other special events, like bake sales, car washes, and book fairs
- planning class parties
- attending school board meetings
- attending school concerts or plays

Check the school website to find volunteer opportunities that fit your schedule. Even giving a few hours during the school year can make a strong impression on your child.

9. Take Attendance Seriously

[Sick kids should stay home from school](#) if they have a fever, are nauseated, vomiting, or have diarrhea. Kids who lose their appetite, are clingy or lethargic, complain of pain, or who just don't seem to be acting "themselves" should also might benefit from a sick day.

Otherwise, it's important that kids arrive at school on time every day, because having to catch up with class work and homework can be stressful and interfere with learning.

If your child is [missing a lot of school due to illness](#), make sure to check with the teacher about any work that needs to be completed. It's also a good idea to know the school's attendance policy.

Sometimes students want to stay home from school because of problems with classmates, assignments or grades, or even teachers. This can result in real symptoms, like headaches or stomachaches. If you think there's a problem at school, talk with your child — and then perhaps with the teacher — to find out more about what's causing the anxiety. The school counselor or school psychologist also might be able to help.

Also try to avoid late bedtimes, which can result in tardy and tired students. A consistent sleep schedule also can help students.

10. Make Time to Talk About School

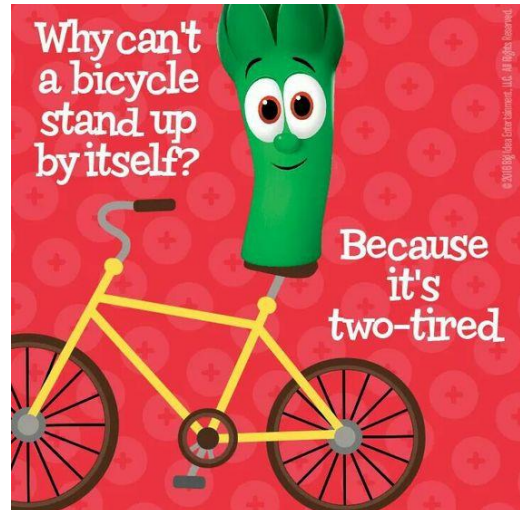
It's usually easy to talk with elementary students about what's going on in class and the latest news at school. You probably know what books your child is reading and are familiar with the math being worked on. But parents can get busy and forget to ask the simple questions, which can have an effect on children's success at school.

[Make time to talk with your child every day](#), so he or she knows that what goes on at school is important to you. When kids know parents are interested in their academic lives, they'll take school seriously as well.

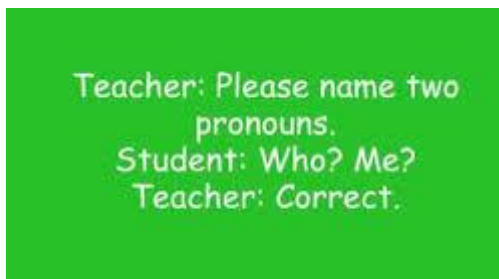
Because communication is a two-way street, the way you talk and listen to your child can influence how well your child listens and responds. It's important to listen carefully, make eye contact, and avoid multitasking while you talk. Be sure to ask questions that go beyond "yes" or "no" answers.

Besides during [family meals](#), good times to talk include car trips (though eye contact isn't needed here, of course), walking the dog, preparing meals, or standing in line at a store.

These early years of schooling are an important time for parents to be informed and supportive about their child's education and to set the stage for children to develop and grow as young learners.



And finally



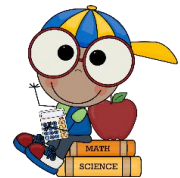
Regards

C SING
ACTING PRINCIPAL

PE UNIFORM



PE SHIRTS	R160	(RED)
SKORT	R160	
SHORTS	R140	
TRACKSUITS	R380 - 400	
CAPS	R50	
BEANIES	R60	
BPS SPORTING KIT		



ON SALE AT THE SPORTS OFFICE. ON SALE EVERY

Wednesday morning 07h00 - 07h30

LEARNERS: ARE WELCOME TO BUY ANYTIME DURING THE SCHOOL DAY (BREAKS)

TRACKSUITS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE END OF FEBRUARY

NO WAITING PERIOD... *tracksuits are available from the sports office size 20 – 30 R380 - size 32 – 38 R400.*

Tuckshop Menu			
Toasted sandwiches		Breakfast Only	
Cheese	R 14,00	Toast & Jam	R 6,00
Cheese & Tomato	R 15,00	Toasted Bacon Egg & Cheese	R 23,00
Ham & Cheese	R 18,00	Hot Cross Buns with Butter	R 6,00
Ham Cheese & Tomato	R 20,00	Every Day	
Bacon & Cheese	R 20,00	Hotdog	R 14,00
Chicken Mayo & Bacon	R 22,00	Cheese Griller Dog	R 15,00
Chicken Mayo & Cheese	R 22,00	Pies	R 17,00
Chicken Mayo	R 20,00	Mojo Pies	R 9,00
Biltong & Cheese	R 22,00	2nd Break only	
Bacon Cheese Onion & BBQ	R 22,00	Russian & Chips	R 27,00
Wraps		Slap Chips	R 15,00
Chicken Wrap	R 26,00	Russian & Chip Roll	R 16,00
Chicken & Feta Wrap	R 28,00	Snacks - All Day	
Salad Wrap	R 18,00	Muffins	R 8,00
Biltong & Feta Wrap	R 30,00	Xlarge biscuits	R 8,00
Salads		Yogurt	R 5,00
Chicken & Feta	R 28,00	Biltong Wheels	R 9,00
Basic Salad	R 18,00	Biltong Sticks	R 5,00
Biltong & Feta	R 30,00		
Weekly Menu - Lunch of the Day			
Monday		Mojo Pie	R 9,00
Tuesday		Cheese Griller Dog	R 15,00
Wednesday		Toated Cheese	R 14,00
Thursday		Hotdog	R 14,00
Friday		Pies (Pepper Steak, Chicken, Steak & Kidney, Cornish, Sausage)	R 17,00
Friday Combo Deal : Pie + Small Kingsley + packet of sweets R30.00			