

Goldridge College



Monthly Newsletter

DECEMBER 2017

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Dear Parents

The end of the academic year, 2017, is upon us and we thank the Almighty God for all the blessings and successes. We held so many competitive events and travelled far and wide under His protection.

It is ideal as the year comes to an end to reflect on our children's achievements and chart the way forward. It is our hope that you take time to do that when you receive your child's academic report.

We look forward to a rewarding 2018 that will be full of joy, peace and stability.

OFFICE HOURS

The school office will be open during the following days during the school holidays:

Friday, 8 December 2017	8.00 to 1.00 p.m.
Monday, 11 to Friday, 15 December 2017	8.00 to 1.00 p.m.
Wednesday, 3 to Friday, 5 January 2018	8.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

After that it will be normal working hours.



SCHOOL CALENDAR 2018

Next year's important dates are as follows:

	First Term	Second Term	Third Term
Opening Date	Tuesday 9, January	Tuesday, 8 May	Tuesday, 11 September
First Fixture Free	Saturday, 27 to Sunday, 28 January	Saturday, 25 to Sunday 27 May	Saturday, 29 to Sunday 30 September
Exeat	Monday 19 to Wednesday, 21 February	Friday, 22 to Monday, 25 June	Friday, 19 to Monday, 22 October
Second Fixture Free	Saturday, 10 to Sunday, 11 March	Saturday, 14 to Sunday 15 July	Saturday, 10 to Sunday, 11 November
Closing Date	Wednesday, 28 March	Thursday, 9 August	Thursday, 6 December

EXCITING NEWS

The following Advanced level students have been invited to attend Global Young Leaders' Conferences to be held in the USA and Malaysia in 2018:

- ♦ Tanatswa Gwaze – USA
- ♦ Terrell Demorgan - Malaysia
- ♦ Panashe Moyo - USA

The conferences help the students to adopt international leadership strategies, embrace diverse cultures and appreciate unique ways of thinking and seeing the world.

One of our Form Four students Rufaro Chingozho was selected to go to Brazil in 2018 for the Rotary Club International Exchange programme. He will be attending his Lower Sixth and living with host families under the auspices of the Rotary Organisation. We are happy that another Goldridge student, Craig Musvipa has been in Germany in 2017 on the Rotary Club exchange programme which should have benefited him to study foreign lifestyles and culture.

DRAMA

We held our Interhouse Drama Competitions on Friday, 24 November 2017. The competitions were won by Musasa House.

We then held our first ever school play on Wednesday, 29 November 2017 at 6.00 p.m. at the Primary School Hall. Both the Interhouse Competitions and the School Play were based on excerpts from Shakespeare's "Macbeth". It was impressive to see how talented some of our children are. I sincerely thank our staff, pupils and all those who managed to attend. I also extend my special thanks to Mrs Ramjee for the make-up for all the actors during both the Interhouse and school dramas. It is my hope that more parents will attend the school play and the Interhouse Drama Competitions in future.



SPORTS

Our sporting activities for the first term 2018 are Athletics, Cross-country, Swimming, Boys Basketball and Cricket. We expect all students to wear the correct sports attire. Every child must have a tracksuit, a golf T-shirt, white track shoes, white socks (**NOT GREY SOCKS**), navy blue boxer shorts, swimming towel and corresponding House T-shirt. Since it will be raining, your child requires at least two pairs of each sports attire item. It is important to note that students must wear tracksuits after sports.

Girls are reminded not to bring tight pairs of shorts for sporting activities.

We kindly request all parents to clearly mark all their children's clothing with the child names.

If a child is unfit to take part in sports on medical grounds, a doctor's note must be given to the sports coaches.

UBUNTU – HUMANITY TOWARDS OTHERS

While the world we are living in is under constant changes, there are human values that must be uplifted and maintained. It is the role of adults to impart these values to all children. While we try our level best in schools to impart the important values, our efforts will not bear any fruits without your support. It requires the whole community to bring up a well mannered child. Let's remember that our duty is to be responsible, forward thinking and teach our children the right things as we prepare them for the future. Do not be afraid to say "no", at times, for the good of your child.

Let us always remind our children to be polite by always saying "please," "Thank you", Excuse me" as these words are the foundation of etiquette and good social skills. We also need to reinforce the same message and values at school and at home.

While we always insist that our children must greet parents appropriately, we also get reports of some who do not do so. We should all take students to task when they do not do as expected.

SCHOOL FEES

All children have been given school fees invoices. All parents need to avoid delaying their children from starting school on the first day or week by paying school fees in time. Some children are being greatly affected by joining others late. The impact of coming to school late is at times overlooked by some parents, yet it has led to failure of many children in major examinations in the past.

Please take note that no child will be permitted to attend school without a gate pass.

As a way of assisting the school, we greatly appreciate it, if a parent can pay part of all school fees in cash where it is possible. Otherwise all modes of payment are acceptable at the college except eco cash. You also need to supply enough details when making your payments so that the bursar's office can identify the child whose fees have been paid. At times we have unknown deposits in our account due to payments being done without any description. Even the bank is at times struggling to identify some online payments being done with no details.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

We teach our children the need to look after the underprivileged in the community. We are happy about the assistance offered by the following groups:

- ◆ The Kids Next Door group paid fees for five pupils at Gaika Primary and St Martins during the beginning of the third term.
- ◆ The Form Three classes and Library Club donated clothing and food items to needy children at Gaika Primary School.
- ◆ The Scripture Union Club donated clothing and food items to Rutendo Old People's Home.



The money collected from Civvies Days – last Friday of each month will be used to assist the Kwekwe General Hospital Female Ward.

Thank you to all our pupils who donated generously. May the Almighty God bless you.

We thank our Board of Governors, staff, parents and children for the unwavering support throughout the year 2017.

Finally, we wish you and your families a lovely holiday, a very happy and holy Christmas. We also wish you good health, peace, happiness and a successful 2018.

May the Almighty God be with you all the time and bless you

L. Mashanda

HEAD