

19 May 2020

Dear Muizenberg High Family

I am excited to announce that we are introducing a new curriculum delivery platform as from the end of May! We are introducing : GOOGLE CLASSROOMS!

This comprehensive platform is multifunctional and it allows for direct interaction between the learners and the staff. Now every learner has direct access to activities and links and they can ask for help and assistance. GOOGLE CLASSROOMS bring TEACHING and LEARNING back into the curriculum delivery equation! It is a great monitoring tool and the staff will communicate directly with your child via their email account. This will give you direct access as a parent to monitor your child at home, to make sure they “enter” the classrooms daily.

The staff received the Google classrooms training during this week and started to “build” their classrooms, using the Gmail accounts we created for your children. Some of our staff have already used the platform during lockdown and found it user friendly, both for themselves and the learners. We can activate interactive teaching as the children can submit assignments, do questionnaires, small tests, homework and we can mark their work. The learners can also ask questions and watch their teachers explain concepts to mention but a few of the academic activities.

#### TIME FRAMES:

As from 21 May your child will receive invitations from all their teachers to enter the classroom. As from 25 May we will send out the week’s schedule to you as parents to see what your children need to do for the week (that part is similar to what we are doing at the moment). We will create work on GOOGLE CLASSROOMS here at school which will be posted and activated as from 27 May. The staff will use their school Gmail accounts to communicate on this platform. This way it stays within the school domain.

Should your child be sick at home, they will still be able to follow the lessons we offer at school! We will therefore align our physical lessons with GOOGLE CLASSROOMS and further postings on the WEB.

**We will post a tutorial** to assist you to activate the accounts and invite the learners to “enter” the classrooms (the learners must accept the invitation to all their classes not just to one class).

Learners can be emailed personally if they have not joined the class, and we can monitor and contact you, the parent.

Many of our parents want to see learning corresponding with our teaching and this will certainly help the process of parental involvement. They can also enter the classroom at any time of the day.

This platform is the way forward in terms of school closure (and the phased-in opening), and taking the fear factor of “what if I cannot send my child to school”, or “will my child still get good schooling one way or the other” out of the equation. The GOOGLE CLASSROOMS platform is all inclusive, and except for posting the lesson, the staff can post other links as additional teaching resources attached to the lesson.

Our families can even access GOOGLE CLASSROOMS on any smartphone if that is the only device available. **We remain committed to continue offering your child a relevant, accessible and accountable curriculum delivery package!**

The staff will continue to train on all GOOGLE SUITE platforms (e.g. Google forms and Google interactive white boards) to ensure the work is explained, comprehended, and offered creatively. We will include Grade Heads and Subject heads in the classrooms to ensure they form part of your communication network.

Thank you for your incredible patience and for the many positive parents whom I interacted with during these daunting times. Once we receive our new amended curriculum we will certainly adjust our work accordingly to ensure an effective and efficient curriculum delivery. It has been very frustrating not to be able to meet with our learners face to face and to make sure that they have engaged with the many activities we prepared for them over the past 7 to 8 weeks.

I thank Mr Petersen for posting all the work every day and Mrs Barnard who answered many queries over the past 8 weeks! I would like to invite you to contact me via email: [ljacobsen@muizenberghig.org.za](mailto:ljacobsen@muizenberghig.org.za) should you have any questions.

Keep well, keep safe and keep up the good spirit!!!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Leonie Jacobsen