



SETTLERS' PARK PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL

(INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION NOT FOR GAIN)

Reg. No. 1972/014384/08

Tel/Fax: 033 – 3473061

E-Mail (general): settlerspp@telkomsa.net

E-mail (principal): settprincipal@telkomsa.net

Website: www.settlersparkpreprimary.co.za

Lat: S29°34'32"

27 Allerton Road
Northern Park

Pietermaritzburg
3201

Long: E30°21'47"

8 January 2021

Newsletter No.1/2021

Dear Settlers' family,

I trust that you have all had a good break and that you are keeping well. As we prepare for a new school year, our hope is that we can open as planned. I will keep you informed if there are any changes as per the COVID-19 regulations and lockdown restrictions. Please see attached extremely important and detailed information regarding the return of children to school. At this stage, the parent information session on Tuesday 19th January at 12 o'clock is still scheduled. This is only for parents. Please bring all your labelled stationery and classroom requirements.

Procedures for children to return to school - January, 2021

The staggered intake dates for the Fireflies, Crickets, Caterpillars and Butterflies classes that you were given last year, must please be strictly adhered to.

Early morning:

- There will be 3 entrance areas which will be manned by adults.
Fireflies and Crickets- big double gate into their garden (Mrs. Ries)
Caterpillars, Butterflies and Bees– front door (Mrs. Borain/Mrs. Kriel)
Ladybirds & Ants – Alley gate (Miss Marnies/ Miss van Rooyen)
- Social distancing decals and other COVID -19 reminders are clearly visible at the entrance points and throughout the school.
- Please ensure that social distancing is strictly adhered to.
- The children's temperatures will be taken with a body scanner on arrival, during the morning and before they leave.
- Temperature registers will be kept for staff and children.
- Sanitizer and liquid soap will be used regularly; adults on duty will control this.

On arrival each morning:

- Parents and children must be wearing a mask or face shield that covers the nose and mouth.
- Please supply 2 additional clearly marked face shields and 2 labelled fabric masks in a Ziploc bag. Please make sure your child is comfortable wearing these.

NO MASK, NO ENTRY!

(If a child or anybody bringing them to school is not wearing a mask/face shield, they will unfortunately not be able to come to school.)

- Children will be met in their classrooms by teachers and assistants who will ensure that social distancing is always adhered to, as well as regular sanitising/hand washing routines.
Children are to walk to classes on their own. *(Staff will assist with bags.)*
- Please be patient when dropping your child as the protocols may take a bit of time.
- Please do not leave until your child's temperature has been taken.
- Please note that drop off is from 7.20 a.m. to 7.55 a.m.
- **GATES WILL BE LOCKED AT 8 A.M. Unfortunately, no late arrivals will be admitted.**

During the day:

- After putting their bags away each child will be given a laminated place mat in their class colour, with his/her symbol or photo on it.
- Each child will have his/her own working space. A plastic tray that has each child's name on, will be used for activities. These will be sanitised regularly.
- Hoops, ropes with knots and other measures will be used for social distancing.
- All unnecessary equipment such as soft toys and cushions, will be removed from the classroom.

No toys may be brought from home.

- Snack, toilet routine and outside play will be staggered for the classes in the various areas throughout the school to ensure that social distancing is always maintained.
- Adults will always accompany children to the toilet to ensure good social distancing and effective sanitising. There will be disposable paper towels, liquid soap and sanitizer. Adults will control the use of these.
- Classrooms, equipment and toilets will be sanitised regularly throughout the day and at the close of school.
- Hands will be sanitised before, during and after each activity.
- If a child shows any COVID-19 symptoms while they are at school, they will be isolated in designated areas in the sick bay and the staff room with adult supervision.
- Parents will be contacted to fetch their child **immediately**. They will have to seek medical advice as per the COVID-19 guidelines.

The school must be informed of the outcome.

- Visitors will not be allowed at school.
- If there are any administrative queries, please call Mrs. Kriel on 033 -3473061 **after** 8.15 a.m.
- If there are any queries pertaining to your child, please speak to Mrs. Borain. She will give the message to the teacher.
- If there are any unavoidable deliveries, the screening procedures will be strictly adhered to.

Home time:

- All children must leave wearing a face shield or mask. These must be sanitised at home and worn to school the following day.

Please ensure all masks and face shields are kept clearly labelled.

Parents must arrive wearing a mask/face shield and maintain social distancing.

Please fetch children promptly at the designated times and from their areas as indicated below.

12 p.m.

- Fireflies and Crickets from their garden.
- Caterpillars and Butterflies from the front (carpark) garden.

12.15 p.m.

- Ladybirds and Ants from the front (carpark) garden.
- Bees from the Fireflies and Crickets garden.

Aftercare:

Strict COVID -19 protocols will be adhered to.

Parents or anyone who has permission from you to collect your child, must arrive wearing a mask/face shield in the correct manner.

Please maintain social distancing.

Please fetch children promptly by the designated times.

1. Children who sleep, must bring a blanket and pillow in a clearly marked bag from home.
These will be sent home on Fridays to be washed and must be returned on Mondays.
2. Please ensure your child's aftercare lunch is in a separate container from his/her mid-morning snack.
3. When you fetch your child, please wait on the verandah and he/she will be brought to you.
4. Please be patient.
5. Please bring your own pen to sign out.

Reminders for home:

- Children's snack boxes and bags need to be cleaned and sterilised at home daily.
- Clean clothing must be worn to school each day. Spare clothing must be in a plastic packet in your child's school bag. **All clothing and items must be clearly marked.**
- Notebooks – No notebooks will be given at this stage. All communication will be via e-mail or on the front board.
- **PLEASE READ THE BOARD AT THE FRONT DOOR EVERY DAY TO CHECK FOR NOTICES.**

- Please ensure that Mrs. Kriel has your correct details – e- mail addresses and phone numbers. Any changes should be notified **in writing**. It is your responsibility to keep us informed if there are any changes.
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Extra activities:

- The Friday Treat (fundraising initiative) will be a juice, a chocolate and a packet of chips. *(further details to follow)*.
- Birthdays – To be advised.
- Library- To be advised.
- Psychomotor- To be advised.
- Music- To be advised.
- Extra Mural activities – To be advised.
- Parties – Unfortunately, the school cannot be hired for parties at this stage.

N.B. If any parents, children, family members, friends or domestic staff have been in contact with anybody showing symptoms of COVID-19, it is imperative that the school is informed immediately. Children may not attend school as per COVID-19 regulations. (2 weeks quarantine)

As you are all aware, COVID-19 numbers are at an all time high. It is not a stigma if anyone tests positive, but it is your responsibility to please inform us immediately. It is vitally important that we work as a team to ensure the safety of our children, parents, staff and loved ones.

I trust that 2021 will be a less challenging year for all of us.

Take care and stay safe,

Ellen Borain.
(Principal)

“It will be impossible to know if we overreacted or did too much, but it would be quite apparent if we under reacted or did too little.”