

13 April 2011

Dear Parents

A very busy first term is behind us, and I think you'd agree that like always, Knysna Primary once again maintained excellent standards with regard to academics, discipline, sports and facilities, coaching, arts and culture, maintenance, and many more. Furthermore I believe that you'd also agree that maintaining these high standards would not at all be possible without a committed, motivated and loyal team of teachers. Here at Knysna Primary we are privileged to indeed have a **wonderful team of teachers** like this, of whom we as Knysna parents can be very proud of.

To quote one of our grateful parents: "... I pay my three children's school fees with much gratitude, knowing that I would have to search far and wide in this country to find a better school for my kids!"

Though we as parents might reason that it is a teacher's duty in any case, I can give you the assurance that Knysna Primary is blessed with a team of teachers whose enthusiasm, commitment and willingness stretch way further than the obvious and what could reasonably be expected of a teacher. At schools where this kind of commitment and willingness to go the extra mile is lacking, many areas of education, and especially extra-mural activities, are indeed suffering gravely.

With Knysna Sport School that has become part of Knysna Primary from the 1st of January 2011, the school now offers even more exciting opportunities in the areas of sports and coaching. Understandably, with these additional facilities and opportunities come an increased workload and more responsibility for our staff. In many instances our teachers not only had to go the extra mile, but also had to attempt a second mile.

With the above in mind, I want to encourage everyone to provide our teachers with a bit of moral support and to maybe even show our appreciation in a more tangible way. Should you feel it to be appropriate, please communicate your appreciation directly to the teacher/s involved with the coaching or teaching of your child or children. (A small token of appreciation means so much more to the teachers than we might ever realise).

On behalf of the governing body I want to address an urgent request to all parents to please be punctual when picking up children after sports practice, games or tours. Please note that teachers are responsible and accountable for the children until the very last one has been collected by the parents. In some instances, parents were up to an hour late, and I think you'd agree that such conduct is extremely unfair towards the teacher and his/her own family life. Please, let us all cooperate and respect the time and personal responsibilities of our loyal teachers.

A big thank you to Mr Stoker and his team who, in their quest to strive towards even higher levels of excellence, showed the willingness to take upon them even more responsibility with the acquisition of the extended sport facilities.

The governing body herewith also wants to thank all our parents who diligently pay their children's school fees for their ongoing commitment and support.

Best wishes for every parent, learner and teacher for the remainder of 2011. We trust that it will once again be an excellent year filled with highlights for everyone involved with Knysna Primary.

Kind regards

Jan van Wageningen
CHAIRMAN: GOVERNING BODY