



PRIMARY NEWS

DATES FOR THE DIARY

FEBRUARY

- 1st : Interhouse Gala
- 15th : Civvies Day
Valentine's Disco
1.30 – 3.30pm
- 21st : School closes at 12pm for
Mid Term break
- 22nd : Mid Term (school closed)
- 25th : Back to school

MARCH

- 8th : Barnyard Theatre Fundraiser
- 15th : Extra murals end for Term 1
- 20th : End of Term School closes at
12pm

A warm welcome to all our new and returning learners and parents. 2019 is going to be a positive year of growth for our school and we look forward to working closely with you this year.

Thank you to all those parents who attended our Information Evening on Tuesday 22nd January. For those of you who were not able to attend, please read and take note of the attached minutes.

SPORTS NEWS

The **Interhouse Gala** will be on **Friday 1st February**. Parents are welcome to attend. The gala will start at approximately 10am and will finish by about 1pm. Please send **extra sunscreen**, a **towel** and a **swimming cap** with your child.

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Please also take note of the upcoming events and dates for the diary and return the attached reply slips for the **Valentine's Dance**. Please get your friends and families to also support us at the **Barnyard Theatre on Friday 8th March**. Tickets will be on sale soon.

VALENTINE'S DANCE

As part of Orion's continued fundraising events and in response to the children's request, we are having a Valentine's Dance for the Primary School on **Friday 15th February 2019. Time: 1.30pm-3.30pm. Venue: Orion School Hall.**
Cost: R40.00 - this includes entrance fee and drink. Only Orion school children may attend. Hot dogs can be pre-ordered using the slip below. The cost for a hot dog is **R15.00**. Chips, cool drinks and glow sticks will be on sale during the afternoon, so please send some extra money along! All Primary School staff will be on duty.

Please indicate if your child will be attending by returning the reply slip **with money** by no later than **Friday 8th February**. Please also complete and return the attached food order form if you would like to order a hot dog and return **with money** by no later than **Friday 8th February**.

We encourage a super response, and hope that we do not have to disappoint the children by cancelling.


Mrs B Robinson (Principal) and the Primary School Staff

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My child _____ in Grade _____

will be attending / will not be attending the Valentine's Dance on 15th February 2019.

Parent signature: _____

FOOD ORDER			
	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Hot Dog		R15.00	
Total			
Learner Name and Surname			Grade

Minutes of the Information Evening held on 22nd January 2019

Welcome to parents

Mission, Vision and Values

The school's Mission and Vision Statements, as well as the school's Values have been updated. These were shared with parents. The school is promoting the teaching of values to the children in line with the values held by the school and parents are encouraged to support us with this.

General Reminders

1. Uniform – must be the Orion uniform only and be neat and clean and labelled.
2. Hair – please stick to the rules.
3. PE uniform – white socks, white or black takkies – no colours, swimming cap, House T -shirt
4. Hats needed every day – No Hat, No Play. Please send extra sunscreen in – esp. if they are doing sports.
5. Lunch boxes – please try to keep it healthy and make sure they have enough to eat and drink.
6. Water bottles are essential
7. PE/ Dance Thursdays – Caps needed for swimming
8. Cell phones must be handed in at the office – unless they are asked to bring them in for a task
9. School starts at 7.40am – children arriving late from this week will need to collect a late slip from the office
10. Transport – please let us know who is collecting your child after school. Please remind your driver if your child is absent.
11. DATA Sheets – please return asap
12. Children not collected on time will be taken to Aftercare and charged per hour.
13. Please READ daily with your child
14. Keep absenteeism to a minimum – it impacts every area and causes anxiety for the child when they fall behind
15. A doctors' certificate is required if they miss an exam.
16. Please check that Homework is being done (including Therapy Homework) - make sure they have a quiet place to work at home

Aftercare

Mrs Bernice Nell is running Aftercare. She has 2 assistants to support her. Please enquire at the front office for details.

Recycling

We are continuing with our recycling drive. Plastic bottles and containers can be sent in from home. They are sent to the Owl Recycling Centre for recycling.

Communication

Each teacher has their own system. Please find out what the system will be for your child's class. All classes use a Communication Book. There will be frequent letters and newsletters. Parents can also email or call teachers. The new D6 Talk system is coming soon. Parents will be informed about this in due course.

Please follow the correct channels – teacher/ therapist first, then HOD, then Deputy Principal or Principal.

If you need to speak to a teacher – please do it before or after school or make an appointment. Please don't try to see them once school has started.

Social Media

Social Media has pros but also many cons. The school is not responsible for how your child uses social media. This is the parent's responsibility. Cyber bullying is a real concern. It is not the school's job to sort out bullying that happens after hours over their phones. Parents were asked to please monitor what their children are up to on their phones. The school will deal with bullying that happens at school.

Behaviour

Orion has a very positive and supportive atmosphere. There are clear systems to support behaviour in place at school, such as the Rainbow Ladder and Consequence Chart, which are visible in classrooms and known to the children. The school's approach is not punitive but supportive. Rewards are promoted, through the Merit System and Values Box. We actively seek out opportunities to recognise good behaviour and choices.

What's coming up

Fundraising events for Term 1 are the Valentine's Dance and Barnyard Theatre. Please support us. Other events coming up are the Interhouse Gala on the 1st Feb. Various other events are planned for the rest of the year, such as Soap Box Derby and Potjie Competition (11 May), Various Civvies Days, Golf Day 30 August (TBC), World Cup Rugby Day and Colour Run. The IP will be going on camp in Term 3. Details still to be decided. Parents support was requested for all events. Dance and Music lessons will be every second Thursday. Horse-riding through SARDA will continue on Thursdays for those selected.

Extra Murals

These have started. Please encourage involvement and participation.

Riette from Abacus Maths spoke and handed out details of the Maths programme to interested parents.

Simon from STEM Education spoke about Robotics and handed out details to interested parents. If there is enough interest, they will be able to offer an extra mural club at a fee to parents.

Therapy

Staff were introduced and the 3:1 model and how therapy works was explained as a reminder to parents.

Teaching staff were introduced and parents then went to the classrooms for a meet and greet.