

# VICTORIA PARK HIGH SCHOOL



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Principal

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## LOCKDOWN NEWSLETTER III

The Minister of Education has delayed her address to the nation regarding the plan to re-open schools. We are all appreciative of the fact that the Minister is exploring all possibilities and listening to the advice of many different advisors, but we are naturally anxious to hear what we can and cannot do. She has committed to address the nation at around 10:00 on Thursday 30 April.

We want to ensure the safety of our school community, while doing our best to make a success of the 2020 academic year.

The latest trustworthy information from the question and answer session in Parliament is that school management will return on 4 May 2020, teachers on 11 May 2020 and then the Grade 12's will be the first to return on 18 May 2020, followed by the phasing in of other grades. The Minister has had to buy time so that the country can get ready to supply schools with screening procedures and equipment and in so doing minimize the risk of anyone getting infected. We are eagerly awaiting the instructions of specialists with regards to the safety, the trimmed syllabi, the new school terms and the way we may tackle the rest of the academic year.

We would have been a few weeks into the second term by now and it is strange to see an empty campus and empty classrooms. Even the toughest rebels are yearning to get back to school by now. We, as the educators, are missing the learners and would love to see them face to face. We have, however, been working closely together to maintain academic continuity in many, new & different ways. Learners and educators have responded well to the challenges, showing flexibility, new methods and resilience to adapt to the new normal. What a joy it was to see a Grade 11 boy delivering his oral from home, dressed in full school uniform! We are, internally, making contingency plans for the latter part of the year.

Learners have collaborated with their friends and classmates, forming groups and trading ideas on how to best deal with the on-line teaching. It has been great to see the Councillors, the hockey teams, subjects and staff members organizing virtual gatherings to lift the spirit of all Victorians.

I would like to implore all parents to keep an eye on their children to ensure that the work that is being communicated, is actually being opened and done. Disturbingly, Grade 8 & 9 teachers have noticed that some learners are not opening work that has been uploaded onto their tablets.

We are dedicated to delivering this year's curriculum and will be running a catch-up programme at school, to supplement what the learners have been doing at home. We are striving, no matter what, to complete the school year and doing everything in our power to see our learners progress to the next grade or graduate from Grade 12.

I will again include the list of contact email addresses of our subject heads, the “d6 connect” person and the address for any other general queries. For academic queries please use the subject heads and if there is still uncertainty, the specific WhatsApp group. Tania Minnie will assist you with “d6” queries and you can direct any other queries to our school e-mail.

### Grade 8 and 9 Learning Area Heads

<b>Afrikaans:</b>	Mrs. Bloem	<a href="mailto:lawrette@bloems.co.za">lawrette@bloems.co.za</a>
	Mrs. Truter	<a href="mailto:beemer@telkomsa.net">beemer@telkomsa.net</a>
<b>Creative Arts:</b>	Mrs. Venter	<a href="mailto:summeriventer@yahoo.com">summeriventer@yahoo.com</a>
<b>EMS:</b>	Mrs. von Wildemann	<a href="mailto:louwkerry@gmail.com">louwkerry@gmail.com</a>
<b>English:</b>	Ms. Meyer	<a href="mailto:paulet.meyer@gmail.com">paulet.meyer@gmail.com</a>
<b>IsiXhosa:</b>	Ms. Mpongoshe	<a href="mailto:pamellampongoshe@gmail.com">pamellampongoshe@gmail.com</a>
<b>Life Orientation:</b>	Mrs. Jennings	<a href="mailto:jenningsma@iafrica.com">jenningsma@iafrica.com</a>
<b>Mathematics:</b>	Mrs. Nel	<a href="mailto:judynel0013@gmail.com">judynel0013@gmail.com</a>
<b>Natural Sciences:</b>	Mrs. Jacobson	<a href="mailto:kagrieve@gmail.com">kagrieve@gmail.com</a>
<b>Social Sciences:</b>	Mrs. Wood	<a href="mailto:wood123@webmail.com">wood123@webmail.com</a>
<b>Technology:</b>	Mr. Ah Shene	<a href="mailto:grantshene@gmail.com">grantshene@gmail.com</a>

### Grade 10 – 12 Subject Heads

<b>Accounting:</b>	Mr. Ferreira	<a href="mailto:conraddferreira@gmail.com">conraddferreira@gmail.com</a>
<b>Afrikaans:</b>	Mrs. du Preez	<a href="mailto:eemdupreez@gmail.com">eemdupreez@gmail.com</a>
<b>Business Studies:</b>	Mr. Boshoff	<a href="mailto:ewaldboshoff@hotmail.com">ewaldboshoff@hotmail.com</a>
<b>C.A.T.:</b>	Mr. Gwija	<a href="mailto:sive.gwija@gmail.com">sive.gwija@gmail.com</a>
<b>Consumer Studies:</b>	Mrs. van Niekerk	<a href="mailto:sandravnk@gmail.com">sandravnk@gmail.com</a>
<b>Design:</b>	Mrs. McGrath	<a href="mailto:jmcgrath@vphs.ecape.school.za">jmcgrath@vphs.ecape.school.za</a>

<b>Dramatic Arts:</b>	Mrs. van der Walt	<a href="mailto:mariette.vanderwalt@gmail.com">mariette.vanderwalt@gmail.com</a>
<b>English:</b>	Ms. Meyer	<a href="mailto:paulet.meyer@gmail.com">paulet.meyer@gmail.com</a>
<b>Geography:</b>	Mrs. Rossi	<a href="mailto:a.lrossi14@gmail.com">a.lrossi14@gmail.com</a>
<b>History:</b>	Mr. Jansen Mrs. Wood	<a href="mailto:ajansen@vphs.ecape.school.za">ajansen@vphs.ecape.school.za</a> <a href="mailto:wood123@webmail.com">wood123@webmail.com</a>
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<b>Life Orientation:</b>	Mrs. Jennings	<a href="mailto:jenningsma@iafrica.com">jenningsma@iafrica.com</a>
<b>Life Sciences:</b>	Mrs. Monteith	<a href="mailto:alydiamonteith@gmail.com">alydiamonteith@gmail.com</a>
<b>Maths Literacy:</b>	Mrs. Nel	<a href="mailto:judynel0013@gmail.com">judynel0013@gmail.com</a>
<b>Mathematics:</b>	Mr. Wynford	<a href="mailto:rwynford@yahoo.com">rwynford@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Music:</b>	Mrs. Gilbert	<a href="mailto:wendymatthews49@hotmail.com">wendymatthews49@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Physical Sciences:</b>	Mrs. Moodaley	<a href="mailto:leeanne.coopoosamy@gmail.com">leeanne.coopoosamy@gmail.com</a>
<b>Tourism:</b>	Ms. Wyatt	<a href="mailto:tamarynwyatt23@gmail.com">tamarynwyatt23@gmail.com</a>
<b>Visual Art:</b>	Mrs. McGrath	<a href="mailto:jmcgrath@vphs.ecape.school.za">jmcgrath@vphs.ecape.school.za</a>
<b>D6 connect:</b>	<b>Mrs Minnie</b>	<a href="mailto:tminnie@vphs.ecape.school.za">tminnie@vphs.ecape.school.za</a>
<b>General:</b>	<b>Mrs Gaffney</b>	<a href="mailto:info@vphs.ecape.school.za">info@vphs.ecape.school.za</a>

**Stay positive and stay safe.**

**Yours sincerely**

**PRINCIPAL & VICTORIA PARK HIGH GOVERNING BODY**