

A: 25 Allan Hirst Drive, Chase Valley, Pietermaritzburg, 3201
T: 033 342 3222 | E: northernparkps@npps.co.za

W: npps.co.za

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING 2023 – Grade 6

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We are excited for the year ahead and we are looking forward to getting to know you as the parents/guardians of the learners whom you have entrusted in our care. Our aim is to teach and develop the whole learner to become capable and self-sufficient.

Physical Education / Sport

- Physical Education is a compulsory part of the school curriculum and carries an assessment mark.
- Ensure that your child comes to school with the correct kit for PHED. Shorts must be of a comfortable fit.
 - For Swimming, every learner must have a cap in his/her house colours, school costume and towel.
 - For Field related PHED, navy shorts and white PHED school shirt (with badge, no plain white t-shirts will be permitted).
- If your child cannot participate in PHED for any valid reason, you are required to send a letter of explanation.
- Kindly ensure that your child brings his/her sports kit on the allocated days. A suitable PHED kitbag is strongly encouraged.
- Ensure that your child's PHED / SPORT clothes are always neat and tidy.
- Your child's participation in PHED and sport is strongly encouraged as this creates character and an overall, general good attitude.
- House T- shirts are to be worn for all Inter-House activities. Only the school's swimming costume
 may be worn.

Homework

- Homework consolidates what was taught in class and enables the learner to evaluate what was taught.
- Homework is issued from Monday to Thursday without fail.
- Children have different ways of learning, so try and establish the style that suits your child and then attempt to cater for such. For example, some children learn better when listening to music, while others find this an enormous distraction.
- Check your child's homework daily. Even if he/she has done this at After-Care, do not sign until
 you are satisfied with its completion and you have checked against their homework diary
- Look in the homework book to confirm what your child has for homework. Don't just take his/her word for it.
- Assist your child but do not do the homework for him/her.



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- Ensure that you sign the homework book and do not allow your child to do so.
- If a learner has a valid reason for not completing homework, please write a detailed note in his/her homework book to prevent the child receiving demerit..
- Homework not completed or done, will be completed during the lunch break.
- Learners should read and learn their times tables on a daily basis. Get involved as a parent and make it fun!

Absenteeism

- If you know your child is going to be absent, please give your child a note, in their communication books (not in his/her homework notebook), explaining why he/she needs to be absent.
- If your child has been absent, then please send a note on a **SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER** when he/she returns to school. This is then placed on the learner's file.
- SP learners may NOT be absent for examinations, unless a doctor's certificate is issued. Should
 a learner be absent without a valid reason, he/she will receive zero (as per the Education
 Department's instruction). Learners should refrain from staying away unnecessary especially on
 Mondays and Fridays

Expectation of learners

- Your child is a role model to the learners in the grades below him/her and is expected to behave accordingly.
- Consistent hard work is expected of him/her and a high standard of work is required.
- Every learner is an ambassador of NPPS and they are to uphold the school's name, both inand out of school.
- All learners must look presentable at all times and abide by the School's Code of Conduct.
 Uniforms should be clearly marked with the learner's name.
- Hair should always be neat and be in-line with the School's Code of Conduct. School shirts must have the school badge sewn or ironed on.
- Name badges, the first of which is issued free of charge, must also be worn daily and if lost, must be replaced at the prevailing cost.

Uniform and Neatness.

- Please make sure your child has the correct uniform and is neatly attired.
- Wearing a full tracksuit is only permitted for sport events. The tracksuit is to be worn during winter.
- Ensure your child's uniform and shoes are clean.
- Ensure that your child's uniform is the right size and in the event that your child has outgrown his/her uniform kindly ensure that it is replaced.
- A learner's uniform is part of his/her identity with the school and must be neat, both on and off the school property.



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Be organized

- Try not to drop your child off late at school. School starts at 7h30. Your must be child must be dropped off by 07h20 the latest. If relevant, discuss these times with your child's transport as well, to avoid confusion or latecoming.
- Co-curricular activities end at 15h30. On a Friday, school closes at 12h30 for all learners.
- During a sports free week, learners are required to be fetched at 14h15. No After-Care is available for those learners, who do not normally go to After-Care.

Build self-confidence

- Don't ever compare child with another. Enjoy each child's uniqueness.
- Encourage any little improvement your child may make and don't harp on the negatives.
- Praise, encourage and support your child. Use positive reinforcement.

Values

- Encourage good basic manners like awaiting his/her time to speak, greeting people properly and the use of "please" and "thank you".
- Be consistent when applying discipline. It will teach children that their deeds have consequences. This prevents bullying.
- Northern Park Primary has a reputation for being litter-free and every learner is expected to maintain this standard.
- Instill a healthy respect for books and all other belongings. They must also look after their personal possessions.

Food

- Give your child a nutritious breakfast, as this has an impact on his/her concentration levels later in the day.
- Ensure that your child has something to eat during break. Asking peers for food is not allowed.
- Pack nutritious food (fresh fruit/vegetables, etc.) preferably not sweets, biscuits, chips and fizzy
 cool drinks. Fridays are set aside for treats and limit these to one, or maximum, two treats per
 week
- Pack extra lunch for when your child remains at the After-Care or plays sport.
- Encourage the drinking of water and ensure that your child brings a juice/water bottle to school on a daily basis.



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Birthdays

- Some learners enjoy bringing eats to celebrate their birthday with their peers however it is not compulsory.
- If you do send eats, please ensure that they are cupcakes, muffins or party packs. Please DO NOT send large sponge type cakes or round cream cakes, as these are far too difficult to manage.
- Unfortunately, cool drinks are not allowed as they are messy and take up too much academic time to set out.
- Should you send invitations to parties, do not do this at school, unless the whole class is invited.

Hygiene

- Teach your child general hygiene like washing his/her hands after using the toilet and before eating.
- Encourage your child to carry a handkerchief/tissue.
- Encourage your child to use a roll-on or body spray.

Safety first

- Your child must know emergency numbers and addresses.
- Teach your child how to cross the street safely and where possible, at a pedestrian crossing.
- Warn your child against the dangers of interacting with strangers. The school has had a number
 of learners fall prey to this, with learners being traumatized by the experience.
- Be alert when your child suddenly has mood swings, sleeps a lot, becomes very aggressive or shows no interest in school. There could be a serious underlying problem he/she is dealing with.
- No learner should be dropped off on the opposite side of Allan Hirst Drive, but rather on the school side.

Parental support / involvement

- Parental support and involvement is required in all aspects of your child's school life ie: attending meetings, parent interviews, intervention, sporting activities etc.
- Parental support / involvement allows for a healthy relationship between the school and the parent community.
- Parental support/involvement keeps you the parent up to date with latest developments at school.

Communication

 Parents are encouraged to use learner communication books for any letters/messages to the teacher. If the communication book is not available, please write the letter/message on an A4



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page.

- Please follow the correct channels of communication. If you need to meet with the Principal or member of management, please contact the school to arrange an appointment.
- If you need to meet with your child's teacher, please write a message in your child's communication book and his/her teacher will communicate back to you.
- If an issue needs to be dealt with further, this should be discussed with the Principal.
- If the school needs to meet with you, it will try to be flexible regarding the time of the meeting.
- Please follow the correct channels of communication via e-mail,as WhatsApp Groups will no longer be in use.
- Parents are urged to download the D6 App onto their devices. All communication will be disseminated via the D6 and e-mail only.
- The correct channel of communication to be followed is as follows:
 - Class teacher
 - Mrs M Govender mrsmgovender@npps.co.za
 - Mrs A Rampersadh <u>mrsarampersadh@npps.co.za</u>
 - Ms S Kweyama <u>mskweyama@npps.co.za</u>

Or

The relevant Sport Coach

- Grade Head / Teacher in Charge (if sports related)
- Departmental Head
- Deputy Principal
- Principal
- Please phone the office (033 342 3222) if you cannot make the meeting and re-schedule another time.

Stationery

- Learners will be provided with a label/ cover page for their exercise books. Parents are encouraged to purchase plain covers without any prints or designs.
- Learners may not borrow stationery from one another as this causes unnecessary disruptions in and conflict in class.
- An extra stationery set must be labelled clearly and kept at school in their desks.
- If there are still some items outstanding, please ensure that your child brings these to school as soon as possible.
- Ensure that your child has both, a homework bag and a library bag (library bags are solely for the storage of library books, it is in the parents' best interest to ensure that this occurs as parents are responsible for the replacement of library books should they get damaged).
- Parents are to supply plastic covers for all exercise books.



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Cell phones

- Learners are discouraged from bringing cellphones to school.
- If learners bring a cellphone to school, it must be with a valid reason and arrangements need to be made with the class teacher. This must be done in writing and signed by a parent/guardian.
- Cellphones must be switched off before entering the school grounds and may only be switched on again, after exiting the school property.
- Under no circumstance whatsoever, are children allowed to use their phones while on the school property.
- Cellphones being used or played with, while on the school property, will be confiscated.
- Cell phones confiscated will be recorded in the cell phone confiscation book. The learner will receive his/her cell phone back on the second Friday, after which it was confiscated. Alternatively, a parent will be able to collect the cell phone any time after confiscation.

Money

- Restrict the amount of cash money that you give your child.
- **Do not** give your child school fees to pay in cash. The finance office no longer accepts large cash payments.
- The school has a credit card machine for such payments.
- School fees and other large amounts must be paid for, either by direct deposit or an EFT, into the school's bank account:

Account Holder: Northern Park Primary School

Account Number: 1130 582 779
Name of Bank: NEDBANK
Branch: TAJ Centre
Branch Code: 198 765

Reference: Child's surname, name and account code

- Learners with a R50 note or greater, will not be allowed to purchase from the Tuck-shop.
- Parents are encouraged to give the exact amount of money for civvies, fundraisers etc.

Rainy days

- Please get a compact raincoat/umbrella for your child to wear in case of unexpected rain.
- If sport is cancelled due to rain, your child will be looked after by his/her sports coach, in the teacher's classroom.
- If your child is not collected by 15h45, he/she will be looked after at the After-Care facility for a nominal fee.



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Enrichment Classes

TUTOR is a private, external organization that provides a professional service to learners. They
send mentors to the school to go through work with a child. They have assisted many of our
learners to improve their English and/or Mathematics. They do charge for their services, which
is obviously, for your account.

Medication

Should a child be taking concentration medication, this will be sent to school for the educator to
administer. Each classroom has a medication safe, which is locked at all times. Parents will
sign a consent form for educators to administer medication and each child signs when medication
is administered. Please ensure that concentration medication is purchased before the previous
tablets are finished. It is imperative that your child does not have any lapse in time when he/she
is not taking his/her prescribed medication.

Learner Insurance

- Learner insurance is administered by Marsh (Pty) Ltd and all learners are covered. The insurance fee is included in the annual school fees.
- If a learner is injured on his/her way to or from school, during school hours or during sport activities, any medical accounts could be claimed back.
- Please note that all medical accounts have to be settled first, before any claims can be submitted.
- If you need assistance with any claims, kindly contact the Finance Office.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs M Govender Grade Head Mrs L Brophy Head of Department

Mr N Pillay