



## **PARENT INFORMATION EVENING 2023 GRADE 5**

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 PE.  
For Swimming, every learner must have a cap in his/her house colours, school costume and towel.  
For Field related – PE, navy shorts and white PE school shirt (with badge, no plain white t-shirts will be permitted).
- If your child cannot participate in PE 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. Learners will utilise the changerooms, to change into their PE kits.
- A dedicated commitment to the chosen codes of sport will improve your child's skills and abilities.
- Your child's participation in PE and sport is strongly encouraged as this creates character and an overall, general good attitude.
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Term – learners to bring both swimming and field PE uniforms for assessment purposes.

### **Homework**

- Homework consolidates what was taught in class and enables the learner to evaluate what was taught.
- Homework is issued on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. No homework will be issued on a Wednesday (as this is allocated as a Family Evening) and a Friday. Homework should not exceed 45 minutes, excluding 15-20 minutes of reading and learning timetables and bonds. Learners must be prepared for an English Spelling Test and Mental Math's Test every Friday.
- At home, prepare a place where your child can do his/her homework peacefully, preferably far away from the TV and other games or distractions.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 punishment.
- Homework not completed or done, will be done after school, on the afternoon that it was due. **You** will then be required to make alternative transport arrangements for your child.
- All Grades should read and learn their times tables daily. 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, on a **SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER** (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).

## 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 in and out of school.
- All learners must always look presentable 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

- Encourage your child to set out his/her uniform the night before. This will help you notice a tear or missing button.



- Please make sure your child has the correct uniform.
- Wearing a full tracksuit is permitted for sport events and during winter. The tracksuit top may be worn with boys' grey pants/shorts and girls' culottes and/or navy-blue long pants.
- Ensure that your child's PE / Sport clothes are always neat and tidy. The white golf shirt with a navy collar must be worn for matches, sport practices and PE. A plain pair of navy shorts must be worn. Only the school's swimming costume may be worn.
- A PE kitbag is strongly encouraged.
- Ensure your child's uniform and shoes are clean.
- House T-shirts are to be worn for all Inter-House activities.
- A learner's uniform is part of his/her identity with the school and must be neat, both on and off the school property.

### Be organised

- Give your child chores to do, e.g., putting lunchboxes in the basin, putting his/her PE clothes in his/her bag, shining his/her shoes, etc.
- Try not to drop your child off late at school. School starts at 7h30. Attempt to drop your child off by 07h20 the latest. If relevant, discuss these times with your child's transport as well, to avoid confusion.
- From Monday to Thursday, school closes at 14h05 for Grade's 4 to 7. Co-curricular activities begin at 14h30 and end at 15h30. On a Friday, school closes at 12h30 for all learners. No co-curricular activities take place on Fridays unless otherwise stated. Please collect your child promptly.
- During a sports free week, learners are required to be fetched at 14h05. No Aftercare is available for those learners, who do not normally go to After-Care.
- Follow a set routine with dinner, bath and sleep times. This will also help them follow a routine at school.
- Go through the School's Code of Conduct with your child and familiarise yourself with its contents.
- Go through his/her bag regularly to sure all school letters etc. and old lunches are removed.
- Suggested bedtimes: Grade R – 3 (19h30), Grade 4 – 5 (20h00) and Grade 6 – 7 (20h30).

### 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 hammer on the negatives.
- Often tell your child how proud you are, of him/her and that you know they will never hurt/disappoint you deliberately.

### Values



- Teach your child 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.
- Teach them respect for parents, grandparents, domestic workers, etc. so that they can apply this value to their teachers, fellow learners and cleaners at school.

## 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 Aftercare or plays sport.
- Establish your child’s likes and dislikes, as far as food is concerned, otherwise food often ends up in the garbage bin.
- Don’t reward children with food.
- Encourage the drinking of water and ensure that your child brings a juice/water bottle to school on a daily basis.

## Birthdays

- Some learners enjoy bringing eats to celebrate their birthday with their peers.
- 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.

## Safety first

- Teach your child general hygiene like washing his/her hands after using the toilet and before eating.
- 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 several learners fall prey to this, with learners being traumatized by the experience.
- Learners are to refrain from leaving the school property without adult supervision.
- 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.
- Whilst it is every parent's prerogative to discipline his/her child in the manner that they see fit, parents are cautioned against physical discipline as the constitutional court has ruled corporal punishment by parents' illegal in South Africa.
- Should a child arrive at school with marks on his/her body, it is the responsibility of the school to report this to the relevant authorities.

## Get involved

- You are strongly encouraged to get involved in all aspects of your child's school life, by supporting activities at school and attending meetings. Teachers will be requesting the assistance of parents from time-to-time.
- Encourage your child to take part in after-school activities. It teaches him/her team-building skills and enhances his/her gross-motor abilities.

## Communication

- Parents are encouraged to use learner communication books (Homework Record Book) for any letters/messages to the teacher. If the communication book is not available, please write the letter/message on an A4 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 homework notebook 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 phone the office (033 342 3222) if you cannot make the meeting and re-schedule another time.
- Parents must utilize the **D6 communicator** for information updates, current notices and newsletters.
- All correspondence to relevant staff must be via email.

## Stationery

- Please supply your child with all the required stationery for the year. Ensure that it is all labelled correctly and that all labels are visible.



- Learners may not borrow stationery from one another. This causes things to go missing or become finished quickly.
- 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).

## Cell phones

- Learners are discouraged from bringing cellphones to school.
- If learners bring a cellphone to school, it must be marked with their name and accompanied by a letter with a valid reason. It will be kept in the classroom safe.
- 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.

## 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.

## 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 always locked. 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.

## Email addresses:

- **Grade 5 CS (Mrs Cherisse Sithapersad) – Grade Head:** [mrrscsithapersad@npps.co.za](mailto:mrrscsithapersad@npps.co.za)
- **Grade 5 NS (Mrs Narika Singh):** [mrsnsingh@npps.co.za](mailto:mrsnsingh@npps.co.za)
- **Grade 5 AR - Departmental Head, Senior Primary (Mrs Anusha Rajpaul):** [mrsarajpaul@npps.co.za](mailto:mrsarajpaul@npps.co.za)
- **Sports Department (Mr Thamie Zondi, Ms Tansley Brown, Mr Tyler Fraser):** [sport@npps.co.za](mailto:sport@npps.co.za)

Yours faithfully

Mrs Anusha Rajpaul  
Mr Neelan Pillay  
Departmental Head (Senior Primary)  
Headmaster

Mrs Cherisse Sithapersad  
Grade 5 Head

Mr N Pillay

HEADMASTER