



Knysna High School High School

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Principal / Principal: Mr / Mr M Mosdell

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Dear parents

Term 3 is a very busy term and this year surpassed all the previous ones.

- We had sports matches taking place during the week and on weekends.
- The public speaking competition took place.
- Our annual Carnival was a great success, thank you to all the parents that assisted us with organization and support.

Miss Kennedy needs to be thanked for the unbelievable support she gave to myself taking on the Acting Deputy position from the beginning of the year. Many of our exciting and successful changes to the exam and cycle test timetable are her doing. I am very pleased that she has agreed to continue in that role and look forward to building on what she has started.

The School is currently working on several exciting changes to our school systems at the School Management and Leadership Team level.

- The first of these is an update to our Prefect selection process. Last year we made some adaptations to the criteria and the selection process to try and make it less of a popularity contest and more focussed on learners with leadership potential. This year we are taking it a step further. Grade 10 and 11 learners will vote for their initial selection group. These learners will then have to produce a manifesto of what they would bring to this leadership role. They will have to present this to their peers. Learners will also go through an interview process to assess their skills and their belief in what their individual manifestoes contain. Each of these aspects, including the learner votes, are added up to arrive at our final prefect group. This group will be announced at a special Grade 11 Assembly.
- The second big change is to the awarding of Academic Awards. These were previously based on the Term 1 to Term 3 results so that the awards evening could be held in the Fourth Term. This struck the School Management and Leadership Team as a little unfair. The majority of a learner's marks are made up of the Term 4 Examination marks, 75% for Grades 10-12 and 60% for Grade 8 and 9. When we compared the results of learners at the end of the year against those receiving awards at the Awards Evening we picked up some discrepancies. The decision has therefore been made to move the Academic Awards Evening for Grade 8 to Grade 11 to Term 1 and we will be basing those awards on the entire year's marks. The Extra-Curricular awards will still take place in Term 4. Matric learners will receive their Academic Awards and recognition at their Valediction, a fitting time to honour their achievements at Knysna High School as we say our final farewell to the learners before they embark on their Final NSC Examinations.

While change is difficult, I am convinced that both of these changes will have a positive impact on Knysna High School and look forward to the continued support of all parents in educating and growing our learners.

Tuskies forever!

Mr M Mosdell