

The DHS Herald

31 March 2020
Issue 09/2020

Durban High School
Head Master : Mr A D Pinheiro



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Country-wide COVID-19 Lockdown - 27 March to 16 April
- ◆ Planned Date for Start of Term 2 2020 : 17 April
- ◆ Teaching Starts : 17 April

From the Head Master's Desk

Tuesday 31 March 2020, should have been the start of Term 2. When the year started; with all its promises and hopes, we certainly never imagined that presently we would be isolated at home in a worldwide lockdown. There is a lot of information being put out as to what we should or shouldn't be doing at this time. It is certainly not easy for the Government to manage, as there is no existing manual offering guidelines for this process. I believe our State President has done well, relying on best practises from other countries who experienced the start of this pandemic before us. We all need to support the measures put in place, as this will allow us to get back to normality sooner.

It has certainly has also challenged us as a school and I commend all our staff for their efforts thus far. With very short notice, our Academic staff managed to put comprehensive Work Packs together for the boys (also available on the D6). Some staff continue to teach through either Microsoft Teams or Google Classroom and we continue to provide regular information about free Online Educational Platforms that are available at this time. The Staff will continue uploading work onto the D6 as and when required.

There is no doubt that the June holidays will be shortened, and all missed time will be made up before the end of the year. We are ready to teach from Lesson 1 on Day 1 when we return to school.

I can assure parents that their sons will not be disadvantaged academically in any way.

I also, at this time, need to commend our Admin, Grounds and Maintenance staff, who worked tirelessly up until Lockdown Day to ensure that we are fully ready to commence school as expected when we return.

As parents, your responsibilities become very different now. Boys function best in a structured routine, so it is important that it is provided at home as well. But it needs to be the right routine; Playstation all day is not a routine.

A couple of hours a day doing school work. A slot each day to do physical activity to stay healthy (and sane). While this mental and physical development is important, the most important aspect parents should spend time on is the strengthening of their relationship with their son to ensure their emotional development. This is a time to be together; do things together; eat together (at a dining room table and not in front of the television) and talking to each other. I can assure you that a boy who is in an emotionally good head space will always be successful. Teaching and learning then becomes easy. As Fredrick Douglass stated: 'It is easier to build strong children than repair broken men.'

Use this time to build emotionally strong children.

I pray that as a nation, we heal soon. As families, that you remain healthy and as a school, that we return safely.

Deo Fretus
A D Pinheiro : Head Master



What is Google Classroom?

Google Classroom is a free collaboration tool for teachers and students. Teachers can create an online classroom, invite students to the class then create and distribute assignments. Within the Google Classroom students and teachers can have conversations about the assignments and teachers can track the student's progress.

and interact in the class stream or by email. Teachers can also quickly see who has or hasn't completed the work, and give direct, real-time feedback and grades.

- Works with apps you use - Classroom works with Google Docs, Calendar, Gmail, Drive, and Forms.
- Affordable and secure - Classroom is free for schools, non-profits, and individuals.

What can you do with google Classroom?

Teachers:

- Create and manage classes, assignments, and grades.
- Give direct, real-time feedback and grades.

Students:

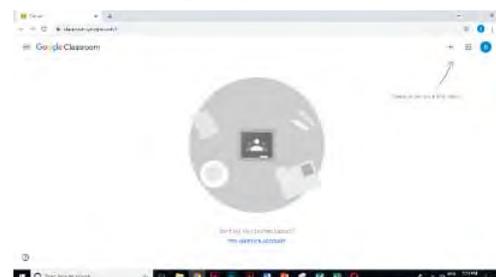
- Track classwork and materials.
- Share resources and interact in the class stream or by email.
- Submit assignments.
- Get feedback and grades.

Get Started With Google Classroom

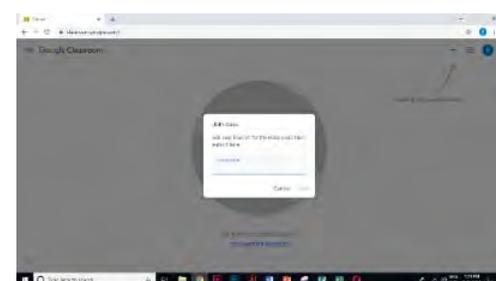
- Direct any browser to www.classroom.google.com
- If you already have a Google account, sign in. Otherwise, you'll need to create a free Google account and then log in.
- Classrooms are created by the teacher who then invite students to their class via email address of supplying their students with a class code. Some teachers have given the students the class codes, others are available on the D6.
- The students join the class from the Classroom main screen by clicking on the plus (+) sign and then "Join Class." Then input your code, join the class, and start exploring assignments, questions, and discussions.
- You can access Google Classroom from any browser, or download the app for Android, iPhone, or iPad.



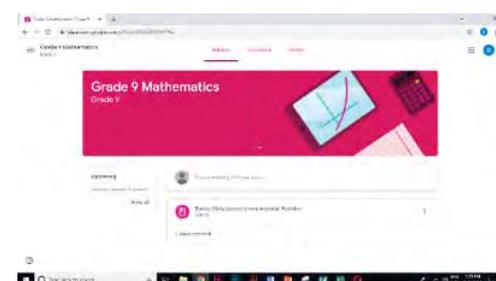
Google sign in page



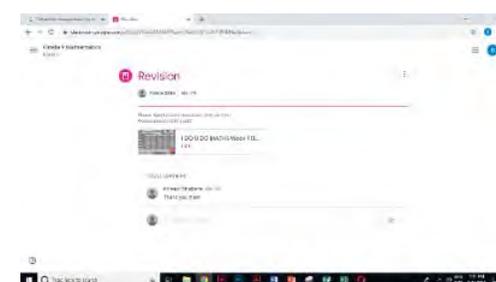
Google Classroom join page



Google Classroom enter code page



Google Classroom Class



Google Classroom work

Google Classroom is a free web service, developed by Google for schools, that aims to simplify creating, distributing, and grading assignments in a paperless way. Students can be invited to join a class through a private code, or automatically imported from a school domain.

Google Classroom makes teaching more productive and meaningful by streamlining assignments, boosting collaboration, and fostering communication. Educators can create classes, distribute assignments, send feedback, and see everything in one place. Classroom also seamlessly integrates with other Google tools like Google Docs and Drive.

Benefits of Google Classroom:

- Easy setup - Teachers can set up a class, invite students and co-teachers. On the Classwork page, they can share information - assignments, questions, and materials.
- Saves time and paper - Teachers can create classes, distribute assignments, communicate, and stay organized, all in one place.
- Better organization - Students can see assignments on the To-do page, in the class stream, or on the class calendar. All class materials are automatically filed into Google Drive folders.
- Enhanced communication and feedback - Teachers can create assignments, instantly start class discussions and send announcements. Students can share resources with each other



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*Inspired by our past,
Committed to our future*

We're on the Web!
www.durbanhighschool.co.za

Links to Useful Online Sites

A number of Online sites are offering free services as people work together to support each other during this unprecedented time of lockdown. Below are some useful ones:

Basic Department of Education Resources:

http://dbecontent.bhelela.com/FE_TContent.php

Shutters are offering free guides for Grade 8 to 12:

<https://shutter.co.za/freebooks>

Khan Academy are offering free resources for schools, teachers and parents:

<https://bit.ly/2R2bepg>

Amazon are offering free audio books while schools are closed:

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Mozabook for Grade 1 - 12 content until 20 May 2020: Download at <https://bit.ly/Mozabook> and use the following activation key which is valid until 20 May 2020: MOZ-ML-MTEK-ZOBZ-QIXQ-DYEN-OBEN-288888

To exercise tune in for live daily workouts and build towards SA's biggest workout on 13 April 2020:

<https://www.fitnessfaculty.club/jef/Together>

Letter to Parents from SGB Chairman

Please see below the contents of a letter sent to parents from the Chairman of the DHS School governing Body, Mr Paul Spooner.

To all Parents, Pupils, Staff and Stakeholders of Durban High School

The Durban High School community find ourselves in a difficult situation in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. World-wide, governments, organisations and individuals are having to plot a safe path forward to ensure that we endure through this pandemic. Durban High School is no different!

The management and School Governing Body are working tirelessly to ensure that DHS emerges strongly on the other side. To this end we would like to make the following points:

1. In alignment with the President's announcement, we will obviously enter a 21-day period of lock-down, starting midnight Thursday 26 March 2020. All school activities are curtailed within the guidelines of the Government, the Department of Health, the NICD and the Department of Education until this date.
2. As many staff as possible will continue to work within the lock-down and will get as much work out as possible to the learners of DHS before the lock-down begins.
3. Educators have sent work home with the pupils and added work to the various communication platforms such as the D6, Google Classroom and WhatsApp groups. More work will be added over the next few weeks, if necessary. May I appeal to parents and guardians to regularly check that your sons are completing the tasks set and to maximise this time at home to their educational benefit.
4. Links to various online education services will be added to the D6 and the DHS social media pages. Many of these are being provided free of charge. Please make good use of them.

5. All the school service providers have already been contacted to ensure that they all have an "action plan" to continue to service the school, where possible, during this period.
6. Everything possible is being done to ensure the safety of staff and pupils at the school. As and when the pupils return to school, the property will be sanitised and disinfected to ensure the health and safety of all concerned.
7. May we also appeal to all to continue to pay your school fees. This is not optional! The school continues to run and incur expenses, not least of which are salaries. Under the current circumstances the school premises will be shut down, however, the school operations must continue so that after the crisis we can all return to a functioning school again. Staff continue to plan and will work hard at ensuring the learners return to normality at school. All this effort is to minimise any potential backlog in order to ensure that teaching can begin seamlessly and effortlessly on our return to school.

So, rest assured, everything is being done to strategize and then execute the plan for the next season. We trust that DHS can return to normality in the near future and continue to provide all learners with the excellent education that has come to be expected from "School".

Please may I ask you to pray for our community and country as we enter a period never before experienced by us.

DEO FRETUS.

Yours sincerely

PAUL SPOONER
DHS SGB Chairman



Emergency Hotline: 0800 029 999
WhatsApp Support Line: 0600-123456

COVID-19

Online Resource & News Portal
SAcoronavirus.co.za



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Getting sick during lockdown

You will be able to seek medical care during the lockdown. Emergency services including doctors, clinics, hospitals and pharmacies continue to operate as usual.

Practice hygiene when you go out, wash your hands when leaving home, do so again at your destination and before you depart for home.

If you are showing symptoms of Covid-19, & need medical care:

- Call your doctor or clinic and report your symptoms.
- Wear a facemask when you enter the healthcare facility.
- Ask your healthcare professional to inform the NICD if you test positive for Covid-19.
- Keep a distance of at least one-and-a-half meters from your family members at home.

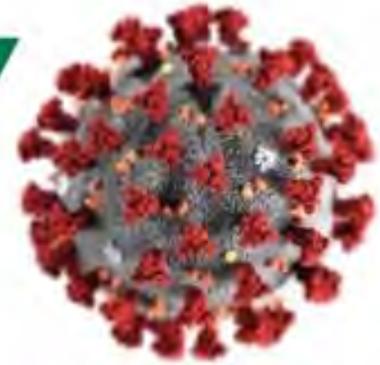
Learn more to Be **READY** for #COVID19:

www.sacoronavirus.co.za

NICD Hotline: 0800 029 999
WhatsApp 'Hi' to 0600 123 456



Is COVID-19 an airborne virus?



The WHO has disputed claims that COVID-19 is airborne

What we know is:

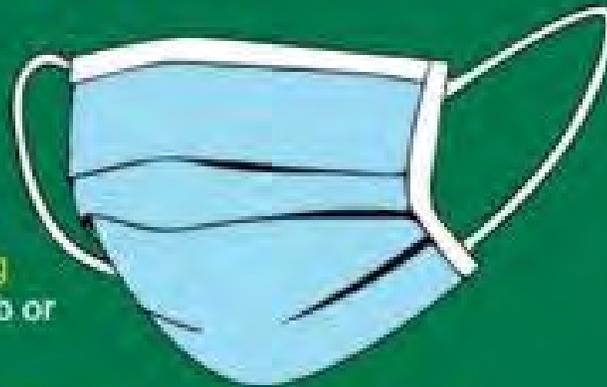
- COVID-19 is a droplet infection.
- Droplets can spread to those who are in close proximity with an infected person.
- Droplets can remain on some surfaces for up to 12 hours.
- It is therefore important to practice social distancing and good hygiene to prevent becoming infected

When to use a mask

For healthy people wear a mask **only if you are taking care of a person with suspected 2019-nCoV infection**

Wear a mask, if you are **coughing or sneezing**

Masks are effective only when used **in combination with frequent hand-cleaning with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water**



If you wear a mask then you **must know how to use it and dispose of it properly**

Learn more to Be **READY** for #COVID19:

www.sacoronavirus.co.za

NICD Hotline: 0800 029 999
WhatsApp 'Hi' to 0600 123 456

Credit: WHO

How to put on, use, take off and dispose of a mask

Before putting on a mask, clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water



Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask



Learn more to Be **READY** for #COVID19:
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NICD Hotline: 0800 029 999
WhatsApp 'Hi' to 0600 123 456

Credit: WHO



How to put on, use, take off and dispose of a mask

Avoid touching the mask while using it; if you do, clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water



To remove the mask: **remove it from behind** (do not touch the front of the mask); **discard immediately in a closed bin**; **clean hands** with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water



Learn more to Be **READY** for #COVID19:
www.sacoronavirus.co.za

NICD Hotline: 0800 029 999
WhatsApp 'Hi' to 0600 123 456

Credit: WHO



How to put on, use, take off and dispose of a mask

Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp and do not re-use single-use masks



Learn more to Be **READY** for #COVID19:
www.sacoronavirus.co.za

NICD Hotline: 0800 029 999
WhatsApp 'Hi' to 0600 123 456

Credit: WHO



WhatsApp support is
NOW AVAILABLE
in IsiZulu, IsiXhosa,
SeSotho and Afrikaans



Say "**Hi**" to
0600 123 456



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