

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

“You don't have to be great to start; you have to start to be great.”

Welcome to LEICESTER ROAD SCHOOL:

Welcome back to the start of the academic year in 2024! As the principal, it is with great enthusiasm and optimism that I extend a warm welcome to all learners, staff, parents, and guardians. This year promises to be an exciting chapter in the history of Leicester Road School, as we continue our journey towards excellence and innovation.

As part of the school's vision we are committed to providing our learners with a conducive and advanced learning environment.

Active participation in extra-curricular activities is a cornerstone of any holistic education. All learners are to explore their interests and talents through various clubs, sports, and cultural activities.

We are dedicated to maintaining and enhancing LRS's reputation for academic excellence. Our talented and dedicated teaching staff will continue to inspire and challenge learners to achieve their highest potential. We encourage learners to set ambitious goals and provide them with the resources and support necessary to reach new heights in their academic pursuits.

Parents and guardians play a crucial role in the success of our learners. We value and appreciate your continued involvement in the education of your children. This year, we will continue to increase communication and collaboration between the school and parents through regular updates, parent-teacher meetings, and other engagement opportunities.

THIS YEAR'S THEME IS: YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE GREAT TO START; YOU HAVE TO START TO BE GREAT.

This is your and your children's second home, so make the most of this special and wonderful place. The school has a unique and special family feel and character. We are going to have a great and wonderful 2024 together.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS:

Our school staff welcome the opportunity to discuss with parents matters of mutual concern: educational progress/problems, homework, etc. Parents, who wish to do so, should make an appointment with the class educator by letter or a note in the homework notebook. Should further discussions be required, please feel free to telephone the School Office to make an appointment with the Heads of Department, Mrs Merrifield (FP HOD), Miss Sekotlong (IP HOD) or Mrs Reddy (Deputy Principal) or the Principal (Mr Driver).

Please keep the class educator informed of any therapy, counseling, extra lessons or medical conditions which may occur from time to time. All information will be treated as confidential. Copies of reports or a brief note, detailing the necessary information, should be sent to the class educator.

Please take note that ALL queries need to FIRST be addressed with the educator concerned before an issue is escalated.

Parent → Educator → HOD → Deputy Principal → Principal

LIST OF EDUCATORS PER GRADE:

GRADE	CLASS	EDUCATOR	EMAIL ADDRESS
R	RA	Mrs R Marrian	r.marrian@lrschool.co.za
	RB	Miss Z Ndava	z.ndava@lrschool.co.za
	RC	Mrs A Stewart	a.stewart@lrschool.co.za
1	1A	Ms E Arokiam	e.arokiam@lrschool.co.za
	1B	Mrs C Minnie	c.minnie@lrschool.co.za
	1C	Mrs M Merrifield	m.merrifield@lrschool.co.za
	1D	Ms T Da Fonseca	t.dafonseca@lrschool.co.za
2	2A	Mrs LJ Hinckley	l.hinckley@lrschool.co.za
	2B	Miss A Loddo	a.loddo@lrschool.co.za
	2C	Mrs B Du Toit	b.mathews@lrschool.co.za
3	3A	Miss S Whitehead	s.whitehead@lrschool.co.za
	3B	Miss R Arnott	r.arnott@lrschool.co.za
	3C	Mrs S Frederick	s.kotzee@lrschool.co.za
4	4A	Mrs C Barreto	c.maia@lrschool.co.za
	4B	Miss C Anthony	c.anthony@lrschool.co.za
	4C	Miss K Singh	k.singh@lrschool.co.za
5	5A	Miss E Smit	elandrie@lrschool.co.za
	5B	Mrs K Vose	k.beukes@lrschool.co.za
	5C	Mrs V Sumungal	v.sumungal@lrschool.co.za
6	6A	Mrs H Merrington	h.merrington@lrschool.co.za
	6B	Mr M Makenjee	m.makenjee@lrschool.co.za
	6C	Mr M Vadival	pm.vadival@lrschool.co.za
7	7A	Miss B Harker	b.harker@lrschool.co.za
	7B	Mrs E Aldworth	e.aldworth@lrschool.co.za
	7C	Mr SP Zagt	sp.zagt@lrschool.co.za

PARENTS INFORMATION EVENING:**Parents Information Evening**

Vital information is shared by your child's educators at this important meeting. Please make every endeavour to attend.

PARENT'S EVENING - TERM 1**@ 18h00****I. P. (Gr. 4-7): Tuesday, 23 January**

Grade	Venue
4	Library
5	Room 4
6	Room 21
7	Hall

PARENT'S EVENING - TERM 1**@ 18h00****F. P. (Gr. R-3): Wednesday, 24 January**

Grade	Venue
R	In educator's classrooms
1	
2	
3	

SUPPORT REQUIRED:

We welcome the support of educators in the community who are able to help us whilst our educators are on leave. Please contact us on **011 615 7328** or email info@lrschool.co.za if you can assist.

SCHOOL PHOTOS:

Official school photos will be taken on **Wednesday, 31 January 2024** for Grade R & 1 and **Wednesday, 7 February 2024** for Grades 2 - 7. It is vital that learners are dressed in their full summer uniform. Learners are to have the correct hairstyle and look presentable. No make-up is allowed.

DAY ONE PACK:

Your child(ren) will be given a pack of information and reply slips. We have tried to condense these to a minimum, but there is a bit of repetitive work to be done on your side. Each of these forms go to a different department and it is therefore imperative that each form is filled out correctly and in its entirety. ALL reply slips need to be sent back to the class teacher by **Tuesday, 30 January 2024**.

EXTRA-MURAL ACTIVITIES:

The Extra-Mural timetable will be handed out to the learners tomorrow and we hope to have everyone's full support as the programme gets underway on Monday the 22nd January 2024. Learners are to be encouraged to choose the activity that interests them, or an activity which they enjoy and in which they are most likely to achieve success. Learners, who are chosen as reserves, are expected to remain at matches for the duration of the match. Regular participation in the weekly practice sessions is a prerequisite for team inclusion. Learners are expected to wear the correct uniform to practices and matches.

FORGETFULNESS:

The quickest way of learning not to be forgetful is to have to do without something. PLEASE parents – help teach your child to remember – if he/she forgets a swimming costume, lunch box, etc at home – leave it there! Next week he/she won't forget it! **The only items which will be passed on to learners are spectacles, emergency medicines, lunch, etc.**

STATIONERY AND CLOTHING LABELS:

Please ensure that each learner has all items of stationery required. Each item of clothing and stationery must be labelled to minimize the high volumes of lost property. Lost items of clothing not claimed after 7 days will be moved to the 2nd hand shop.

SCHOOL HOURS:

School starts at 7h45 for each grade, Mon to Thurs and at 7h40 on Fridays. All late arrivals are recorded and reflected on the learner's termly report.

Dismissal times are as follows:

Grade	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
R - 7	14h00	14h00	14h00	14h00	12h35

LATE ARRIVAL & COLLECTION OF LEARNERS:

We request parents/guardians to make every effort to get children to school before, or by **07h45** and collect them promptly after dismissal.

It is of concern to us that too large a number of children repeatedly arrive late for school in the mornings and are collected too long after dismissal time in the afternoons.

In order to reduce the problems related to both these matters, kindly read the following with care:

LATE ARRIVALS:

GDE legislation and policies state that all school children should be on the school property and behind locked gates during school hours (GDE Circular 13 of 2002). This is an important security precaution.

If late, parents (or accompanying adult) are required to escort the child to "sign in" with admin staff.

Other very important reasons **why it is not in your child's best interests to arrive late on a regular basis, are:**

1. Children arriving late **disrupt lessons** that have already begun. The educator then has to stop and repeat what has already been taught and discussed. This **wastes teaching and learning time**. This disruption and waste of time is **unfair and detrimental to the majority** who arrive punctually.
2. Children arriving late **miss early morning announcements and instructions** regarding school activities for the day. **This leaves the latecomers at a disadvantage** while those children who arrive on time are well organised and can benefit more from their school day.
3. Persistent late arrival **may be a sign that a child's physical and emotional welfare are at risk**. For example,
 - Frequent lateness may be the result of chaotic early morning routines (or lack thereof!) which **unsettles the child** and can **negatively affect his/her learning and progress**.
 - Children may be forced to travel long distances on their own, **putting their safety at risk**. (Please ensure that your child does not have to walk a long distance to/from school and that young children are not walking alone.)
4. **Socially, children who arrive late miss out on the early morning "bonding" with friends**. Many playground games begin before school and continue throughout the day. **Children who arrive late often feel "left out" for this reason**. Ideally, children should have time to chat/play with friends before the school bell rings.

COLLECTION AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Children are not allowed to roam the school premises unsupervised after school has been dismissed. They have to wait in the designated waiting areas until they are collected.

1. **After school learners should go home immediately**, except if they are involved in after school activities.
2. Parents/Guardians/Care Givers need to make arrangements to collect children who are involved in after school activities, immediately after that activity has been concluded.
3. Learners have to be **fully dressed in their school uniform or their PE kit before they leave the school premises. They also have to have their shoes and socks on.** No child may leave the school grounds in swimwear, dancing outfits or barefoot.
4. Kindly ensure that **you know where your children are at all times**, and that your children are certain of who will be collecting them after school, at what time they will be collected and at which gate they will be collected.
5. **Children need to understand very clearly why they may NEVER ACCEPT LIFTS** from somebody else if their parents have not told them of such arrangements in advance.
6. **The names of children who are left at school late are recorded. Their parents are contacted because such children are extremely vulnerable to injury and/or crime.**

D6 COMMUNICATOR:

Our primary method of communication is the D6 Communicator. We recommend that EVERY parent downloads this app as certain vital information is sent through this platform. Please visit our website to find instructions for the download on the NEWS AND INFO page. You can use the link on the top banner of our webpage, www.lrschool.co.za

VISITORS ON THE SCHOOL PROPERTY:

Any parent entering the school property for meetings with teachers or for the 2nd hand uniform shop must enter through **Derby Road Gate ONLY** and report to the office first.

Yours in Education,
Mr KWM DRIVER
School Principal



Sign

17/1/2023
Date

