

Craighall

Primary School

20 April 2021



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Mrs A Prout-Jones
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Bowden
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School Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians

Term one has come and gone. Wow, to run at full capacity and finish what was an extremely lengthy term, during Covid times, is a great achievement. The children's reports reflect that we managed to complete the curriculum in 2020 with high achievements. I feel so fortunate that we are able to have all the children here daily. It saddens me to hear that most schools are still running with alternate days or bi-weekly. These children will be negatively impacted by this for their entire schooling. Due to us running the school 'behind the walls' and not allowing any access to parents, I asked Mrs Bowden, who has had access as the SBST co-ordinator and psychologist, to put on paper what she so often mentions to me. She said she wishes that parents would understand and see the intricate day to day school day.

"Letter written by Mrs Bowden"

Having been to a government primary school myself, 5 minutes from our home, the centre of our little community, filled with caring staff, neighbours and friends, this is what I pictured for my own children to experience.

My husband bought our house in Craighall Park before we got married and we didn't fully realise what a wise choice that was until the year before my eldest son was in Grade R and I attended my first Craighall Primary Open Day. As I walked into the property I got such a nostalgic feeling, almost as though I was visiting my own primary school, and as the tour went on I realised that this was the place I would love my children to attend. Luckily Ben was accepted to Craighall and my husband and I entered the school saying that if we chose to go to a government school then we would get involved in the life of the school and contribute where we could.

Over the years we have tried as far as possible to keep to that commitment but interestingly the contribution Craighall has given to us is far more than we could offer to Craighall. Perhaps I should explain what I mean.

Initially I volunteered as class mom which gave me the opportunity to meet other parents and my child's teacher. I soon realised that I had a lot in common with many parents - even though we may have been from diverse backgrounds we all valued quality education, had a strong sense of community and were willing to partner with the staff to enhance our children's educational journey.

Meeting my eldest son's teacher in Grade One was the beginning of an incredible experience. She was the first of a team of exceptionally dedicated, talented and enthusiastic teachers who constantly strive to become better at their vocation, put their learners first and do whatever is possible for them to assist their learners to learn in the very best possible way.

Over the years I joined the PTA and then have had the opportunity to work as the school remedial teacher and now psychologist and so have been privileged to work with the teaching staff, admin team and management team and have seen the school from many different angles.

I have always been amazed when watching Mrs. Prout-Jones's AGM presentations at how much is achieved during a school day and school year and now that I have spent more time at the school I know that is only a snapshot. The variety of opportunities for learning of academic, cultural, sporting and life skills that our children experience at Craighall is remarkable.



The motto of Craighall is Craighall Cares which we hear often and would perhaps have the opportunity to become stale and just something we say. But I have seen it acted out time and again. I have seen how my children and all the others are seen and known as individuals. Not just a member of a class or a name on a class list. I have seen how the school community rallies around children, staff and families in distress, and I have seen how there is genuine celebration in times of success, achievement or overcoming adversity.

Covid has placed an incredible extra burden on staff in terms of flexibility, protocol and the need to be constantly vigilant with the children. Despite this I have seen them rise to this challenge and although feeling exhausted they still tell me they were awake in the night thinking of how best to help a child through their academic or emotional challenges.

Now you can understand why coming to Craighall has been such a valuable experience and why I count it a privilege to be able to work with the outstanding team of staff, parents and children, headed up by Mrs. Prout-Jones, without whose guidance and resolute dedication to the school this would not be the case.

Craighall is not just the government primary school down the road, it is a place of learning, cooperation, teamwork, happiness, sadness, tolerance, appreciation of each other, challenge to become better, and a place that will give your children the wings to fly to their next adventure at the end of primary school.

I extend my gratitude to Mrs Bowden for sharing her heart and highlighting the true value behind our school.

Thank you to the PTA for organising, Movie Night which was a huge success! Thank you to all those who supported this event. The 'old' feel of Craighall Primary returned for those couple of hours.

Staff News

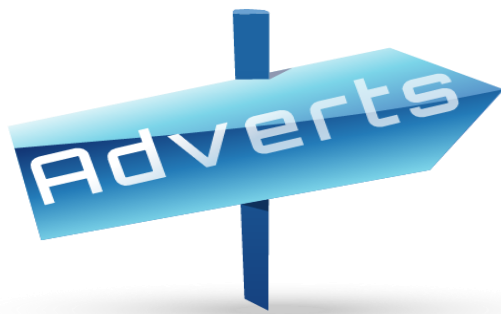
Thank you to Mrs Anthony for the sterling job she did in Grade 3 while filling in for Mrs Macphail who was on accouchement leave. We welcome back Mrs Macphail.

Happy belated birthday to Miss Vieira (Grade 2 - Educator) - 6 April; Mr Jonas (Ground staff) - 11 April; Miss Peeperkorn (Grade 4 - Educator) - 14 April, Mr Khumalo (Active Ed) - 19 April.

Please have a safe and restful holiday. We shall see you back on the 3rd May. Full winter uniform or full summer uniform may be worn.

Kind regards

A Prout-Jones (Mrs)
Principal



While Craighall Primary accepts outside adverts, we are unable to take responsibility for the nature and quality of the services offered



Tutors @ Your Service

- ✓ For assistance in all school subjects
- ✓ Homework supervision
- ✓ Our tutors come to you.
- ✓ Our tutors provide online virtual classes during the lockdown
- ✓ For top class tuition
- ✓ 10 years of education excellence

Contact: Mandy: 082 217 2077
Theresa: 083 453 4792
smp@icon.co.za

www.tutorsatyourservice.co.za
www.englishforyou.co.za

School Transport

- ♦ Safety First - One seat belt, One child
- ♦ Treating each child as our own
- ♦ We take pride in our vehicles, and conduct regular safety checks
- ♦ Experienced & Responsible drivers
- ♦ Passenger liability cover
- ♦ Affordable Prices

Greenside | Parktown North | Parkhurst
Emmarentia | Craighall Park | Rosebank
journey2gether.tpt@gmail.com



Journey 2gether

073 110 7198

We're bringing the best of the Cape's wine tastings to Joburg!

Looking for a special, fun and safe 1 hour event to take your mind off the dreaded 'rona?

Taste Wine Joburg has created a safe outdoors wine tasting venue in Craighall that will allow just 12 people at a time to sample some of our beautiful country's most exciting and delicious wines. At our tastings, you'll taste 5 or 6 wines, either on their own or paired with innovative, yummy morsels.

- 6 x wine tasting event: R150 per person (choose between red or white tasting, or mixed)
- 5 x wines paired with Italian gourmet mini-pizzas R200 per person
- 5 x wines paired with delicious macarons - R200 per person
- 6 x heritage wines R200 per person

When:

Every Wednesday to Sunday, from 11am to 5pm.

Whether you come as friends, family, book club, colleagues, investment circles, birthday group or a date, we know you'll leave having tasted some of the country's most delicious wines, and maybe even with some new friends.

We look forward to hosting you!

Bookings open now:

Email: founder@tastewinejoburg.co.za
Join our WhatsApp group: 084 607 3621
See our selections:

<http://www.tastewinejoburg.co.za/Options/>

Address: Moda Restaurant, Shepard Bush Market, 339 Jan Smuts Ave

Are you up for a challenge? Want to make a difference?

BE A CUB

The 1st Craighall Cub packs have space for **boys and girls** who wish to join this year. If your child enjoys adventure, fun, making friends and is 7-9 years old, why don't you join us on **Saturday mornings (8:00 to 10:00) at the Sunrise pack?**

A free trial period of 3 weeks is offered before any confirmation of membership is made, so just come and try.

The Cub programme runs for ages 7 to 11 years after which the Scout programme is applicable.

Fees are R2700 per year, payable per term (4 terms).

Mathilde Akar at akela-sunrise@1stcraighall.co.za or 083 426 2919 for further information and to book a place.

Note that the Craighall Scouts group also runs a Meerkat programme for the kids aged 5 to 6 years, a 2nd cub pack operating on Friday evenings and a Scout programme for those who are 11 to 18 years old.

The scouts' hall is at the corner of Buckingham and Hamilton Avenue- Craighall

