

Aggeneys International Academy - NPC



End of May KIT (Keeping in Touch)

Good day parents and guardians

UPDATE ON COVID BREAKOUT AT THE ACADEMY

The usual winter seasonal colds and flu' came into play recently; and tiptoeing into the mix of the usual sneezes and coughs, Covid danced into Aggeneys. Our Academy was first hit 2 weeks ago when screening staff noticed a spike in children's temperatures, or more than normal learners needing to be sent home with sore throats, or high temperatures. Within days teachers started to present with symptoms, and after consulting with the department of Education and parents, we were forced to lock down the academy so that we could fog, deep clean and sanitise.

We appreciated the positive and prompt response from you, our parents, and guardians, agreeing to the closure of two days. Mr Bugan and Mr. Cloete fogged all rooms that afternoon and Saturday. Staff were back on Tuesday to clean up and prepare their rooms for the return to normal lessons. Several staff were affected by the virus and had to go into isolation. I am pleased to advise that in this week we should get back to normal.

We continue to monitor children and staff at both units (Academy and Bright Beginnings) and will act promptly on any developments.

SCHOOL LIFE:

- We have reached the business end of the term, and this means exam and assessment time. By now, all students should have drawn up a study timetable to ensure that they are able to do THEIR absolute best.
- External examinations (Cambridge AS Levels) have begun for AS level Groups A and B. The other classes in Key Stage 3 begin tomorrow, and exams and assessments begin in Key Stages 2 and 1 on Wednesday 1 June. We would like to wish our students the best of luck for the exams.
- Student wellness is most important during this time. Let us all work together to ensure that our children are as relaxed as can be. While these assessments are important, they DO NOT define our children. As parents and teachers, we need to care for our children more than we care for the results.
- Pease take note of the dismissal times for the exam period:
 - Key stage 3: From 31 May till 7 June: 13h00
- Key stage 2: From 1 June till 7 June 13h00
- **Key Stage 1 and Bright Beginning** will respectively be doing assessments during this period of exams.
- School dismissal time reverts to normal (13:30) from 8 15 June for all Key stages.
- Public Holiday June 16 and School Holiday June 17
- Last week of term: School dismisses at 13H00.
- Last day of school (23 June) Students dismissed at 10h30 and reports go out.
- The district officer for the Kimberley office responsible for independent schools paid us a visit early in the month. He spent a productive morning with Ms. Thomas and Mr Bugan and was pleased with the Cambridge results and the work of the Academy.
- Bright Beginnings is gradually returning to normal as enrolments go up in line with DSD mandated increases. We are also glad to have been able to recruit new staff or confirm appointments of temporary staff.
- A current town survey addresses the concept of a blended learning process in the town. Management has been tasked to research the potential and viability of such a model, and a small team is exploring possibilities