23 January 2025

NEWSLETTER # 1 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians

It is wonderful seeing all the children back at school. We look forward to a happy year together. Please see below for the latest updates.

Upcoming Events:

Indemnities will be sent home to selected participants. Please note indemnities will be sent home to all participants selected for all sporting events. Please sign and return them as soon as you receive them.

January

Mon 27th – Class 1 Parents Meeting 1 pm – 2 pm.
Class 4 and 5 Parents meeting 2 pm – 3 pm (@class 4)
Tue 28th – Class 2 Parents Meeting 2 pm – 3 pm
Wed 29th – Class 3 Parents Meeting 1 pm – 2 pm
Class 6 and 7 Parents Meeting 2 pm – 3 pm (@class 6)

February

Sat 22nd – U14 Girls Soccer Festival @ MLP
U14 Boys Cricket Festival @ Usutu (UFS)
Wed 26th – U9 Boys Cricket Festival @ Enjabulweni
Thurs 27th **– Close at 12 o'clock for Mid-Term break, no afternoon activities**

March

Tues 4th – Open Mid- Term break
Wed 5th – U9 Girls Soccer Festival @ MLP
Sat 15th – U11 Boys Cricket Festival @ Malkerns
U11 Girls Soccer Festival @ MLP

Sports

Sporting activities for the first half of Term 1 are as follows: Soccer for girls and Cricket for boys. After the mid-term, there will be Hockey for girls and boys. It is a rule that all children playing Hockey wear mouthguards and shin pads. These can be obtained at most sports shops, as well as Makro in South Africa.

Car Park

Lower Car Park: Classes 1, 2, 3, and 4 will utilise this car park in the morning and afternoon.

Top Car Park: Classes 5, 6 and 7 will utilise this car park in the morning and afternoon.

Please use the upper car parks if you have children in both lower and upper grades and are dropping off or collecting them at the same time.

We ask parents to please respect the parking attendants, security officers, and teachers who assist in the parking areas; they are there to assist you, keep the traffic flowing, and keep the learners safe. Please respect the traffic signs, use the correct gates, and park in the allocated parking. Your assistance is appreciated.

Class Porches

Parents are asked to please wait for their children at the gates; parents on the porches can be very distracting to students.

Class WhatsApp groups

Parents have been added to class WhatsApp groups. All relevant information will be shared via these groups. These groups allow only administrators to post information on them. This is to keep group chatter to a minimum. Should you want to communicate with a teacher, please use your child's school Communication Book to write a message, or book an appointment via the school office. Teachers value their communication with parents, but during teaching hours, they focus their attention on students and do not use their phones. If you have an emergency, please contact the school office for immediate assistance.

School Office Contact details:

Please use the following numbers and email addresses to contact us.

Landline: 34501938
Administrator (Alicia) – 7657 4566/79106450 admin@montessorilife.net
Bursar (Dudu) – 7631 7645 bursar@montessorilife.net
Deputy (Zulmira) – 76053430 deputy.principal@montessorilife.net
Principal (Thea) – 76362636 principal@montessorilife.net

Parents' Meetings

We look forward to seeing parents at our upcoming welcoming meetings. Should you need to meet class teachers or extra-curricular teachers privately at any time throughout the year, please do not hesitate to make an appointment via the school office, or by contacting the teacher directly. Communication is the key to any successful relationship.

Nutrition/Snack Time

Parents are encouraged to pack a healthy and nutritious lunch and to include a fruit and water for snack time. We ask that NO sweets, chips, fizzy drinks or energy drinks be sent to school with your child.

Sports Schedule:

Lower Elementary Grade 1:
Tue: 13h00 to 14h00 (ABC Sport during school time)
Thu: 13h00 to 14h00 (ABC Sport during school time)
Lower Elementary Grades 2 and 3
Mon: 13h00 to 14h00
Wed: 13h00 to 14h00
Upper Elementary Grade 4 and 5
Tue- 14h00 to 15h00 (Grade 4 and 5)
Thur - 14h00 to 15h00 (Grade 4 and 5)
Upper Elementary Grade 6 and 7
Mon- 14h00 to 15h00 (Grade 6 and7)
Wed - 14h00 to 15h00 (Grade 6 and 7)

Hats

We remind parents to please send students to school with labelled hats.

Labels

Please label all items of clothing. We have an ever-growing pile of unclaimed clothing. Labelling ensures that we can allocate lost and found items.

High School Expo

Our annual High School Expo is scheduled for the 12th of March. We will share a roster with you as soon as we finalise one.

We kindly remind Grade 7 parents to apply to multiple high schools early in the year to ensure options.

Book Donations

We continue to grow our library and would appreciate any donations. We have a donation box in the school office.

Extra PAID Curricular Activities

Please be reminded that these activities are NOT run by the school and are paid for privately by parents. Please see the table below for the necessary information. **The school bus does not wait for children booked in for extra paid activities that finish after 3 pm.**

EXTRA PAID CURRICULAR SPORTS 2025

	Sport	Time	Grades	Coach	Coach Number
Monday	Basketball	2pm to 3pm	Grade 4 and Grade 5	Delisa	7651 1101 / 7951 1101
Tuesday	Basketball	2pm to 3pm	Grade 6 and Grade 7	Delisa	7651 1101 / 7951 1101
	Gymnastics	2pm to 3pm	Grade 4, 5, 6 and Grade 7	Kim	7603 9099
	Robotics	2pm to 3pm	Grade 1 and Grade 3	Jose	76245200
	Art	2pm to 3pm	All Grades	Bridget	7822 2508
	Music Lessons	2pm to 3pm	All Grades	MX	7602 4550 / 7901 6575
	Taekwondo	2pm to 3pm	All Grades	Mchunu	7985 0133
Thursday	Sewing	2pm to 3pm	All Grades	Beverley	7818 5253
	Gymnastics	2pm to 3pm	Grade 1, 2 and Grade 3	Kim	7603 9099
Friday	Judo	1pm to 2pm	All Grades	Tertius	7686 3678
	Cricket	1pm to 2pm	All Grades	Delisa	7651 1101 / 7951 1101
	Taekwondo	1pm to 2pm	All Grades	Mchunu	7985 0133
	Be Hold Dance Studio – move and groove	1pm – 2pm	8 years -14 years old	Sepati	78619007
	Soccer	2pm to 3pm	All Grades	Gerard	7644 8087 / 7964 8087

Bus

Should your child's paid activity finish later than their scheduled bus departure, please arrange to fetch them from school.

School Uniform

All students must wear the school uniform daily. Girls can wear tights, shorts, tracksuit pants, or jeans (no ripped or skinny jeans) with the school golfer and school tracksuit top. Boys can wear shorts, tracksuit pants, or jeans with the school golfer and tracksuit top. There are no specific days for wearing orange or lime golfers. If your child is selected for sports events, they will receive a specific sports kit sold in our school office. Parents will be invoiced accordingly for the kit. Children may wear sports kits to school as part of their uniform. Jewellery is not allowed at school.

The school office will have school tracksuits and golf shirts for sale, and we will notify parents when stock arrives.

Groundsmen and women

Musa Zulu- Head of Maintenance and Groundsmen
Frank Mkhonta – Driver (Temporary)
Phumzile Thwala – Head Cleaner
Zodwa Tembe - Cleaner
Delisile Gumedze – Cleaner
Jabulani Hlophe – Groundsman
Halleluya Tembe -Groundsman
Bonisile Nhlabatsi - Cleaner
Sifiso Mkhonta – Groundsmen
Bongimusa Manana – Groundsmen

Security

We continue to work with Buffalo Soldiers and have day and night guards on the premises.

Fees

We remind parents with outstanding fees to please settle their accounts promptly. Termly payers should have settled their accounts; monthly payers, please make payment before the 7th of each month to avoid disruption to learning. Learners with outstanding amounts and no current payment plan or communication to the school will face disruption to learning.

We look forward to a productive year together. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office should you need to.

Kind regards

Thea