

RHENISH GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

The Oldest Girls' School in South Africa

Principal: Ms E H Slabber

16 April 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians

Sports and Cultural Activities Under Lockdown Level 1

It is nearly the end of the term and I am very grateful that we have had a relatively smooth term with all our girls back at school since 15 February.

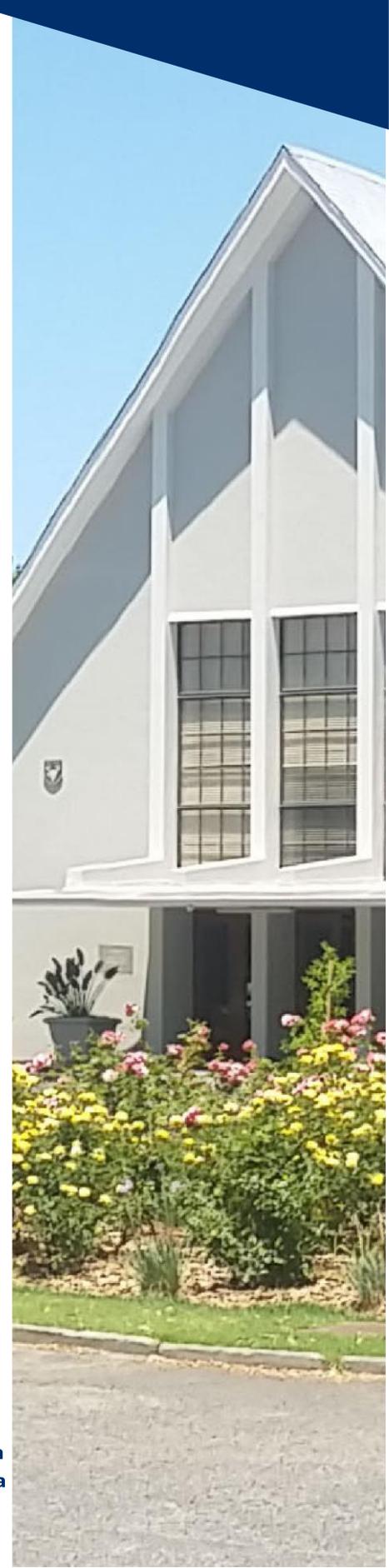
I have reported on all the positive Covid cases we have had in this time, as soon I was made aware of it by parents. I have to give our girls credit for their attitude regarding this pandemic and the fact that most of our girls do take it seriously and I am so proud of them. The cases I have reported to the Rhenish community were also not because those girls were irresponsible. As we know, this can affect anyone, at any place, at any time. I am just very grateful that these learners are all well and recovering after the period of isolation.

It is so important that we do not now become complacent. We need to remind ourselves all the time to be careful and to follow the protocols in place at the school.

This brings me to the sport and cultural activities in which our girls are participating. As you will be aware, in line with current regulations, as a school we may not allow any spectators (parents or visitors) on the property for any of the activities. This may not always seem logical – I often ask why then one can go to a busy mall? However, we have to comply with regulations or we could face being closed.

While I really would like to open our gates for parents and visitors to support our sport players (hockey, netball, soccer and swimming), I am restricted by the regulations and I would not like to be seen as negligent. We could potentially have learners who, unbeknown to us, are positive OR visitors to the campus might unknowingly bring the virus onto the campus.

On occasion, I do invite parents onto the property when it is a small group and easily managed. My hope is that we will soon be allowed to invite supporters back to our big sports events.



RHENISH
GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL



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Thank you to all the parents who wait patiently in your cars for your daughters. Thank you to all the parents who drive backwards and forwards dropping and fetching Rhenishers for practices. It is regrettable that we have to restrict our campus to this degree and I recognize that it is a massive inconvenience, however, I hope that we will be granted permission to open for our parents in the near future.

As you are unable to physically attend matches, we have decided to stream our home matches – as many as we physically can - so that parents can at least see some matches. Unfortunately we rely on the internet and wifi for this and we can only stream the matches when we play a home game. This weekend we will be playing some of our hockey games on our own astro and we will be able to stream these games - please see the link below for the different games. Unfortunately, we will not be able to stream any netball matches, because they will be playing at Bloemhof and we do not have access to their wifi and internet. Netball matches – from one court only as we only have equipment to cover one court - will also be streamed when we do play a home game.

We are very excited that we are once again able to compete against other schools, but this still remains a challenge and a concern for me. Outsiders will come onto our property and they will make use of our facilities and this means that we do have a big responsibility to sanitize every place after every event. The Sports Departments of all the schools are working together to ensure that all the learners are safe. All of the players from visiting schools as well as all Rhenish players are recorded, screened and their temperatures taken before any learner enters the school. This is for track and trace purposes and everyone should arrive as stipulated – players cannot arrive too early or hang around after their games. Staff members and the Sports Department will be at the front gate to welcome the opponents and to screen them as well as our own learners.

I hope that by next term we will have good news for all our parents and that we can slowly but surely return to normal, but what is normal these days?. That soon, the grounds will once again hum with the voices of our supporters cheering our players along as they play their hearts out for their school.

Thank you once again for your continued support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely



Ms Helmien Slabber

Principal

Links for the Weekend Hockey Matches on Rhenish Astro:

14A

bit.ly/rghssport001

14B

bit.ly/rghssport002

16A

bit.ly/rghssport003

19B

bit.ly/rghssport004

19A

bit.ly/rghssport005