

No 1
15 JANUARY
2015

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Unity College Weekly Newsletter

Welcome

Unity welcomes back all learners for the 2015 school year. A special welcome to teachers Monya Oosthuysen and Vicky Lamb who have joined our Junior Phase.

We also welcome our new learners Tumelo Mhlaba, Rilee Govender, Cara Rood and Sizwe Tshabalala.



Download the following documents from our website:

- ❖ [Term plan Term 1](#)
- ❖ [School Calendar 2015 \(UPDATED\)](#)

School closing times

Mondays and Wednesdays (Extra-mural days)
School closes at 3.00 p.m. for ALL learners (but not for the first week of a school term).

Tuesdays and Thursdays
School closes at 1.30 p.m. for all Juniors
School closes at 2.00 p.m. for Intermediates and Seniors

Fridays
School closes at 1.00 p.m. for ALL learners

About our Newsletter

For the benefit of our new parents, newsletters are sent out on Thursdays via email or a paper copy (if you do not have an email address).

The newsletter is an important medium for communication between the school and parents and keeps you up to date with happenings at Unity.

So, please check your emails or child's bag every Thursday for Unity's Newsletter!

Should you wish to advertise in the newsletter, please let Debbie Millar, school secretary, have your advert by latest on Tuesdays. R50.00 per advert.

Please check our website from time to time for Unity's Who's Who, Term Plan, School Calendar, school photos of events etc.

Bulk SMS's to parents is yet another communication medium used at Unity. Please ensure that we have your correct cell number at all times.

- Our reception area is now located outside the Principal's office in the main building. Here Debbie will attend to all your enquiries.
- When visiting the school please report to reception first. Please do not proceed directly to your child's class as this is often disruptive to both your child and teaching in general.
- Any parcels, packed lunches etc. must be handed in at reception and they will be sent to your child.
- If you require an appointment with a teacher please inform Debbie at reception and she will make the necessary arrangements to facilitate a meeting at an appropriate time.

A special welcome is extended to the learners on trial:

19 - 30 January 2015

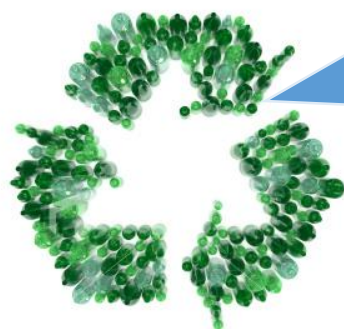
Junior 4 - Juan-Pierrre de Beer
Int 1 / 2 - Matsobane Mabuseli
Int 1 / 2 - Thando Buthelezi
Int 3 / 4 - Lathitha Tyantsi
Senior 1 / 2 - Isabella Maul
Senior 1 / 2 - Stefan Fourie
Senior 1 / 2 - Isabella Maul

21 January – 4 February

Senior L/O - Jarrod van der Westhuizen

Entrance stickers for parent's/lift scheme cars

Please collect your 2015/16 sticker from Debbie by Wednesday next week. If no sticker is displayed on your car, you will have to sign in with the guard as from Thursday next week.



Remember to drop your empty glass bottles or jars into the bin at Unity.

Occupational therapy department

Adri is looking for a mum or gran who will be willing to help her make weighted jackets and toys for the therapy department.

Please phone Adri on 0834492957

Divorced? Separated? Find help, discover hope, and experience healing.

The Divorce Care Recovery Course starts on 3 February 2015.

Venue: Chartwell Village Church – 127 Cedar Avenue Chartwell.

Course times: 19h30 to 21h00.

For bookings and queries please contact Jenny on 074 698 1724 mornings only, or email jenny@chartwellchurch.org.za

Aftercare

Aftercare is open daily throughout the term from 13:30 / 14:00 / 15:00 until 17:30.

FEES:

Regular - R1000.00 per month
Casual - R 100.00 per day

Please contact Hazel on 083 755 5968 should you require further information.

Unity School Peak Cap

The wearing of these caps is compulsory. By the end of this term, we would like every child in the school to have a cap. The caps will be kept at school in your child's register class. Please order your child's cap through Debbie at the office R55.00.

Prefects & Monitors

We congratulate the following learners:

PREFECTS

Kgopisha Kekana, Bianca Cassim, Lawrence Mphuthi, Cailyn Korras, Rory Sims, Nina Naegele, Brad Arthurs, Nkhensani Mashiloane

MONITORS

Jared Wordon, Ranauk Paul, Chisala Bwalya, Fulu Tshiguvho

Well done – we are so proud of you all

Tuckshop - a letter will go out shortly



Haven't got a MySchool card?

Click here to download the [new application form](#)

REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR USED INK CARTRIDGES TO UNITY

[Senior Leavers to follow link below: please keep supporting Unity College](#)

Kids News Website Revamp

New theme, new articles, new videos, new sections & online shop. We have re-launched an exciting and user friendly new look. We have a new section on [Special Needs](#), and our [A - Z Listing](#) is now easier to use. We have our [KIDS NEWS ONLINE SHOP](#) where you can purchase books, playground equipment, and stacking cups, CDs etc. for your kids as well as items for mom and dad. Save time & money, **shop without hassle.**

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD WITH SPECIAL NEEDS? WE ARE EXPANDING THIS SECTION ON KIDS NEWS..... [CLICK HERE](#) FOR MORE INFO

Unity's PTA | 26 January 2015 19:00 Unity College | Top Library

All interested parents are welcome. The PTA gets involved at the various functions at the school i.e. Gala, Sports Day, Concert, Raffles etc. The PTA would gladly welcome the support of additional parents.

Join us at our meeting to see what it is all about.



School Badges & Uniform

School badges are available from Debbie in the office White school badges are to be sewn onto all white school shirts or white golf shirts.

Blue school badges are to be sewn onto all Unity school tracksuits that do not have badges. The badges cost R25 each.

Tracksuits, sports shirts, school caps and ties should also be ordered through Debbie



Birthday Wishes | January

WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR SPECIAL DAY

Nathan Lawrie – 2 January
Raunak Paul – 2 January
Mandisa Mabaso – 4 January
Caitlin Maddox – 5 January
Stephanie Pringle – 5 January
Mabatho Nzamela – 9 January
Gabriel Bloem – 10 January
Mongezi Madinane – 15 January
Cara Rood – 19 January

Upcoming Events

Unity School Gala (Intermediates & Seniors) at Heronbridge College
Wednesday 4 February at 17:00

Unity Junior Gala at Unity College
Saturday 7 February at 9:00

Senior Camp at Konka
9 - 12 February

HALF TERM
27 Feb - 2 March

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Monday 16 March at 18:00

A **REMINDER** TO PLEASE MARK YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHING AND STATIONERY ITEMS, LUNCH BOX ETC CLEARLY WITH A PERMANENT MARKER

Note from Business Manager

January statements will go out shortly. Please be advised that despite this, school fees are payable in advance by the 5th of every month.

DISCLAIMER:

Any advertisement placed in this newsletter is done as a service to the community Unity serves. This should not be viewed as an endorsement or recommendation of any product or service advertised.

Unity Bus Routes

We have three bus routes to and from Unity.

We have spaces available on each of our routes.

(Parktown, North Riding and Midrand)

Please contact Henry on (011) 460 0017 or on his cell 082 801 1918 should you wish to find out more about these routes.

Junior Social

SATURDAY 24 JANUARY 2015

09h00-11h00

Swimming picnic. Please bring your picnic baskets, costumes, sun hats and sunscreen

From the Principal's Pen

My wishes for a prosperous, happy and healthy 2015 go to you all.

In the Chinese Horoscope Calendar, 2014 was the "Year of the Horse", and it certainly was. Pace was at times swift and unrelenting. It was destined to be so as we received the news of our Landlord's impending development of our current location.

The location, purchase and ensuing development of the Runnymede Campus raced ahead with great strides. With one's eyes firmly fixed on the vision in mind, one may sometimes neglect the one of the secrets of change – INFORM, INFORM, INFORM.

It may be hard for an egg to turn into a bird: it would be a jolly sight harder for it to learn to fly while remaining an egg. We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad.

Well, the dye has been cast. Progress at the new campus has moved along even more than when you had the opportunity to view it in November. Mr. Botha is now permanently stationed there and invites all parents to visit and have a personalised tour of the facilities.

In an effort to keep within the very tight budget for the development, we have and will continue to "recycle" certain commodities from our current site.

So, if you notice paving being uplifted, grass being removed, or our beloved pre-fab buildings being dismantled, you definitely will see them again on the new campus.

"When will this long awaited move take place and will it be in one fell swoop?"

- We are planning to move in phases. As we dismantle sections of our pre-fab buildings the need for classrooms arises. Our senior phase will be the first to move to the new Campus, their classrooms will then be taken over by the Intermediate and Junior classes.
- Upon completion (+- 4 months) of the new intermediate and junior complex they too will move and we will bid Cedar Road farewell.

All this will take place with the utmost sensitivity and awareness of our children's view and difficulty to cope with change. Through a series of fun and informative visits and programmes, they will own this change and look forward to it!

And "How will this affect me and most importantly my child?"

- **Not at all** - The new Runnymede Campus is mere 4.2km or 5.4km from our current location (depending on route chosen)
- **Very positively** – large brighter classrooms, ample ablution facilities, totally wheelchair friendly, ergonomically designed for ease of movement, among many. But... still retaining and even enhancing that special "Unity feel good and loving" atmosphere.
- **More comfortable** – With the addition of a dedicated After Care center, children will enjoy a more comfortable after care experience.
- **Brighter future prospects** – with in excess of 5 extra classrooms, the way is clear for the introduction of new activities, curricular offerings or expansion.
- **New "Family Members"** – as part of the Chartwell North Residents Association, Unity College can enjoy the freedom offered by this fully secure complex when going on walks or attending Association activities as well as their support for our events.

Despite all this activity and change, Unity College still remains at the cutting edge of educational excellence and serves as model for other institutions to emulate.

In closing and returning to the Chinese Horoscope – 2015 is thankfully the "Year of the Sheep". A time for consolidation, reflection and less hurry scurry. It is going to be a relatively wrinkle free transition to the change that has been knocking on the door for years.

I am available at any time to answer any questions you might have.

Bruce Lindsay