



Laerskool **Paardekraal**

Registration Number (EMIS): 700250803

Pay Point Number: 902076 / School ID Number: 4028002050009

Newsletter 01/ 16 January 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians

I want to extend a warm word of welcome to all our learners and parents. I hope that you all had a very relaxed and enjoyable festive season with your families and friends.

Welcome back to our teachers as well. My wish is that you are all well-rested and ready for all the challenges 2026 might bring. As in the past, we will do our very best to make sure that all the children receive equal opportunities to better themselves in life. Thank you for the huge part you as teachers play to ensure the optimal development of every child under your care. When looking at the statistics for our school for 2025, I commend you on a job done beyond my expectations. The learners and parents are blessed with a dedicated group of teachers like you. Keep up the excellent work you are doing.

To all our new learners and parents, welcome to Laerskool Paardekraal. My wish is that you already feel part of this big family. Please keep this newsletter handy, as it also serves as an information sheet regarding school rules, activities and programmes.

I would like to bring the following matters to your attention:

E-mail: laerskoolpaardekraal@absamail.co.za

Pretoria Street, Private Bag X2038, Krugersdorp 1740, Tel: (011) 953-1930, Fax: (011) 953-1390

1. NEW STAFF MEMBERS TO THE SCHOOL:

Welcome to the following new staff members who joined the teaching corps this year. We are proud to have you at Laerskool Paardekraal to contribute to the quality education Paardekraal is renowned for.



Mrs R Brown



Mrs M Painter



Mrs C Storm

Welcome to three new teachers to our school. We hope you will have a long and rewarding relationship with Laerskool Paardekraal.

- Mrs R Brown will be teaching Mathematics and Life Skills to the grade 5 learners.
- Mrs M Painter is appointed as the new Grade R teacher in Mrs Keys' place, as Mrs Keys is now teaching Grade 2.
- Mrs C Storm will be teaching Social Science and Natural Science and Technology for Grade 5.

Welcome to all three of you!

2. SCHOOL TIMES

The school gate will be open from 06:50 every morning. Please ensure that your child is at school by latest 07:15, in order to be seated in class for school to start at 07:20. Many of our learners come to school late and then miss out on very important class work. Should your child be late for school, the child will unfortunately be sent home with the transport driver, be it a service provider or a parent, as late coming can unfortunately not be entertained at school. It is the responsibility of the parent to make sure that their children are at school on time. In the afternoons, many learners wait for their transport until very late. All learners, grades RR – 7, go home every day at 13:40. No learner will be allowed to leave the school premises before 13:40, unless signed out by a parent, or legal guardian, who must identify him/herself by means of a bar-coded identification document or valid passport. Please refrain from fetching children from the classes. Parents and drivers

should wait **OUTSIDE** the school gate and meet up with their children **OUTSIDE** the gate. The same applies in the mornings – greet your children **OUTSIDE** the gate. Please make suitable arrangements for your child to be fetched on time, as the school cannot be held responsible should something happen to your child after school hours. Please note that there will be no supervision for children after 14:00 and the school cannot be held responsible for any harm or injury caused to a child waiting on the pavement to be fetched. The school is situated in a very dangerous area and it is the parents' responsibility to ensure that their children do not wait to be fetched after the closing time. Parents let us work together and protect our children. We should all see this matter in a very serious light.

During 2025 I have asked numerous times that parents should take action against the constant late coming and late fetching of children. Thank you to those parents who rectified the situation. Unfortunately, this situation remains unchanged for some learners and we can and will not allow the situation to continue. The safety of your children is our first priority, and it should be yours as well. Please do not be upset should we ask you or your service provider to take the child home when he or she is late. Thank you for your kind cooperation regarding this matter.

3. OFFICE HOURS

N.B. Monday – Thursday: 07:30 – 14:00

Friday: 07:30 – 13:00

No money can be accepted after these specified times, for safety and security reasons.

Please remember that there are card facilities available at school. It is a more convenient and a safer way of making payments at school. Please make use of this facility or make payments via the internet or direct bank deposits. The school's banking details are as follows:

Laerskool Paardekraal

ABSA

Current Account no – 01005000153

Please use your child's name, surname and class as a reference and email the proof of payment to joey@paardies.co.za.

4. ENTRY TO SCHOOL PREMISES

All learners, Gr R – Gr 7, must enter the school premises through the single gate between the two waiting areas and leave in the afternoon through the same gate. Parents must use the **main gate at the security guards**. Please be aware that you have to report to the security guards when entering the school premises. For safety reasons you will be issued with a tab which must be stamped by the office before you hand the tab back to the security officer at the gate. Please note that no parent is allowed to go straight to a classroom to deliver, fetch or discuss anything with a teacher. Please always report to the office. No office staff member or teacher can be seen without a formal appointment. Please understand that the teachers are here to teach and are more than willing to see you once a formal appointment is made.

5. THEFT

Unfortunately, we have learners in our school who are stealing from others. On a daily basis we have to deal with theft of stationery, lunch boxes and other belongings. We will deal very strongly with the culprit if caught. I will not hesitate to lay criminal charges against **ANY learner** caught stealing at school. After charges have been laid, the parents will be contacted. Please speak to your child regarding this matter, as we will not tolerate any form of stealing at our school. Please make sure that your child's belongings are all clearly marked. It makes it much easier to return lost belongings to the rightful owner.

6. STATIONERY

You have all received a stationery list for 2026. Please make sure that your child comes to school with adequate stationery. Stationery should be topped up on a regular basis. Thank you to the parents who have already sent photocopy paper to school. If you are in need of a new stationery list, please send a note to the teacher who will gladly issue you with a list.

7. DICTIONARIES

It is very important for learners from grade 4 to 7 to have a pocket size dictionary at school. An English only, as well as an Afrikaans – English dictionary is of great importance to assist your child during language periods. I urge you to please make an effort to purchase these dictionaries as soon as possible. I know that the OXFORD range of pocket dictionaries are very good and affordable.

8. DIARIES

Each child was be issued with a diary for 2026. Please note that the diaries for grades R, 1, 2 and 3 are different from the diaries for grades 4, 5, 6 and 7. **PLEASE** complete the first page in the diary comprehensively and make sure that you include contactable telephone numbers. The diary **MUST** be in the child's bag daily. Please use the diary for communication to the teachers as well. I hope you find the new diaries of great help.

9. CELL PHONES

NO cell phones are allowed at school. The school will not take responsibility for any cell phones that get stolen or lost. If a child is caught using a cell phone at school, the phone will be confiscated, and parents will have to come and fetch the phone from school. A R250,00 penalty is payable before a cell phone will be returned to the parent.

10. SCHOOL UNIFORM, HAIR AND JEWELLERY

It is very important that our learners are dressed in the appropriate school uniform. Many learners come to school in clothing that does not form part of the uniform and that is unacceptable. We rely on our parents' cooperation to ensure that our learners come to school neatly dressed in a clean school uniform.

Lately, we have seen some very strange hair styles amongst our children. Please note that our school rules do not cater for strange hairstyles. Please do not cut any signs, symbols or

lines into the hair or eyebrows. Boys' hair should be short and neat. We do not allow hairstyles for boys where the sides of the head are shaven clean and only a patch of hair is left on top. We discourage afro styles as it prevents certain learners in class from seeing passed the hairstyle when seated behind a child with an afro hair style. Boys are not allowed to plat their hair or to wear extensions. Dyeing of hair is strictly prohibited for both boys and girls.

Girls' hair should be neat at all times. Long hair should be tied back and only ribbons or elastics in the school colours should be used. Please do not tie the hair on top, as it also prevents other learners to see pass the hair style in class. Please accompany your child to the barber shop to make sure the hair is cut according to the school rules.

Boys are not allowed to wear any jewellery except for a normal watch. Girls are allowed to wear a small sleeper or stud in each ear. Sleepers or studs can be in gold or silver only. Please parents, no coloured or diamond studs are allowed. Your child will be asked to remove jewellery that do not form part of the school rules. Please remember that rules are in place to ensure a safe environment for all and to assist with the discipline at school. Should you allow your child freedom of choice regarding hairstyles and jewellery, I can assure you that we will experience disciplinary problems with your child as well. All school rules apply to grade RR and grade R as well.

11. SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to our parents who pay the school fees promptly. However, we have some parents who are not prepared to pay the fees for the quality education that their children receive at this school. One cannot expect to be subsidised by other parents while you are neglecting your responsibilities. Please be reminded that you have signed a document indicating that you are able to pay the school fees when you enrolled your child into this school. Laerskool Paardekraal becomes a school of choice should you pass any school to drop your child at a school that is not closest to your residential address. The payment of school fees is therefore compulsory. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please contact Ms Lynch at school without delay, as all accounts in arrears will be handed over without exception. Once you are blacklisted, it will be very difficult for you to buy on credit again. Your cooperation regarding this matter is appreciated. Please take note that your annual fee of R600,00 as well as the first instalment of R1 300,00 is already payable if your child is in grade RR – 7. Instalments of R1 300,00 are payable over 11 months. There is no difference in the fees for grade RR, grade R and the rest of the school. We trust that our parents are committed to the quality education for their children and that the prompt payment of school fees will be high on their priority list. Please remember that a 7% discount is applicable should you pay the whole year's fees in advance before or on 28 February 2026. Before you consider applying for an exemption, please consider the fact that some parents who live outside the feeder area of the school, are prepared to pay huge amounts towards transport to get the child to school but apply for an exemption for school fees. If you pay a service provider to get your child to school, please do not consider applying for financial assistance, as it will not be granted. Rather consider enrolling your child in a school closer to home to save on transport fees. A limited amount is budgeted for to help parents in the direct feeder area around the school, who experience financial difficulties during the year. When your child attends classes at Laerskool Paardekraal, school fees are therefore payable. All parents were made aware that Laerskool

Paardekraal is a fee-paying school when they enrolled their children. Please assist us to give your child the best education possible, by paying your school fees every month before the 7th. It is unfair and unacceptable to enrol your child in the school and then also ask for immediate financial assistance. Please consider the fact that there are NO FEE SCHOOLS in the area. All parents contemplating in applying for financial assistance must please note that you will have to attend meetings with the School Governing Body before assistance can be considered.

A big thank you to most parents who made the payment of school fees their top priority during 2025. Please contact Ms Lynch for more information on financial matters. Parents who pay their fees on the 15th of each month should please indicate that on an e-mail to Ms Lynch. (joey@paardies.co.za).

12. EXTRA READING LESSONS

Ms Mocke had huge success in the past with her very unique reading program. Many learners, as well as parents, benefitted from her programme and showed great progress in most school subjects. These lessons take place outside school hours, on the school premises, at an additional cost. Should you be interested or want an assessment done to determine whether your child will benefit from her programme, or to discuss the matter with Ms Mocke, please contact her directly on the details below:

"SEE THE SOUND" READING SCHOOL

LITERACY SKILLS DEVELOPMENT THERAPY

LET ME HELP YOU IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S:

- * Reading, spelling and comprehension skills
- * Vocabulary
- * Grammar
- * Memory
- * Logical thinking
- * Creativity

Contact Details:

Mrs Anneline Mocke

Tel.: 084 584 0252

Mail: annelinemocke@yahoo.com

13. LUNCH BOXES/STATIONERY/TRANSPORT FEES/KEYS/ETC

Learners must remember to bring the above to school or stay without it for the day as the admin staff or security guards cannot take the extra burden of handling this and taking responsibility thereof. Parents should refrain from dropping of money, lunch, keys etc., as the admin staff cannot and will not accept these items from parents. In the event that a child forgets his or her lunch at home, the child will be provided with a sandwich from our feeding scheme.

Should you send cake to school on your child's birthday, please make sure that the cake is cut in squares. Please provide polystyrene cups should you send cold drinks in bottles for the birthday.

14. SICK LEARNERS

We request parents not to send sick learners to school. When a child displays any flu like symptoms, please keep the child at home and inform the school of your decision. Please keep sick children at home as we are not equipped to accommodate sick children in class. You will be phoned to collect your child from school immediately, for the safety of your child as well as for the safety of others.

15. NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters will be posted weekly, on Fridays, on the WhatsApp groups. Please ensure that you read the newsletters in order to be aware of what is going on at school. Newsletters are also available on our website. (www.paardies.co.za)

16. WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

To stay informed on what is happening at our school you can visit our Website www.paardies.co.za. Newsletters are loaded on the website weekly. Please go to the website and register yourself on the WhatsApp group for your child's grade. That will ensure regular communication from the school to you. You can also follow us on Facebook.

17. IMMIGRANTS

All immigrants please take note that according to the new legislation you are compelled to pay school fees for 2026 in advance and that the school must be in possession of all legal paperwork. Should this not be the case you must come to see the Principal immediately seeing that all information on immigrants in our school will be submitted to the Department of Home Affairs and Immigration during the first week in February 2026. If your child's documents are not in order, please note that you have 21 days from the date of this letter to submit the necessary documents to the school. It is against the law to have *illegal* immigrants enrolled in the school.

18. APPOINTMENTS

Please make appointments should you wish to see the Principal, Deputy Principal, Departmental Heads or Teachers. Please make those appointments well in advance to prevent the school from making any double appointments.

19. DISCIPLINARY SYSTEM

We have a very comprehensive discipline system and ask for our parents' support. We will not tolerate any behaviour from any child that can jeopardise the health and safety of others. Teasing, name calling, bullying, refusal to cooperate, back-chatting teachers and neglect or refusal to do their schoolwork or any other infringement, will not be tolerated. Safety first, always, please. We ask for your support in this matter.

20. CONFLICT

Should you feel that your child has been treated unfairly by any staff member, please make an appointment to discuss the matter. Please do not blindly believe what your child tells you, as there are always two sides to a story. We have seen in the past that children tell their parents only certain parts of a story and that angry parents often came to school with their minds made up. In most cases they left school with egg on their faces. Should any staff member be in the wrong, an apology will be tendered, and all cases will be dealt with on merit. *Also note that cameras are installed in all classes and around the school, for the protection of children as well as of teachers. Sound is also recorded, which means that all conversations are recorded. Please make your children aware of this security feature.*

21. STAYING AFTER SCHOOL / REQUEST FOR MONEY

Please note that we will never keep your child after school without informing you in advance and in writing.

The school will never ask you to send money to school for fundraisers, unless it is formally done in a newsletter or other correspondence on a school letter head. Please do not send any money to school unless it is requested from you in writing. In the past we had a few "clever" learners who got large amounts of money from their parents, by claiming it was for fundraisers at school. Please contact the school first when in doubt.

22. LUNCH BOXES FOR BREAK TIME

Please ensure that your child has a lunch box for school. There is no need to pack any "fancy" lunch. A normal sandwich with peanut butter, jam or any other spread is sufficient with a healthy fruit and a juice. Please refrain from sending your child to school with lots of money as the money is normally spent on junk sweets bought before school. We discourage sweets, cake and red cold drink for lunch, as it has the tendency to make children hyperactive. Many children come late for school because they wait for shops in the area to open in order to buy sweets. Please discourage your children to buy stuff from vendors who are selling any type of junk to our children. Also please note that the Tuck Shop is open at school, but not selling any food at the moment.

23. PARENTS' INFORMATION SESSIONS

There will be no formal information sessions at school. We will however put information together in our newsletters for our parents, similar to this information newsletter you are reading now. Should you need any information regarding any aspect of school, please contact the school directly. The e-mail address to be used, is info@paardies.co.za.

24. CLOTHING SHOP FOR SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please note that Laerskool Paardekraal has their own clothing shop under the management of Ms M Meya. All your school uniform needs can be addressed at school for your convenience. The best part is that our prices are far less than anywhere else, and the quality of the clothing is outstanding. Should your child need a new school uniform, a jacket only or only a jersey, please contact the clothing shop on (011) 953 1930 extension

