



Laerskool Paardekraal

Registration Number (EMIS): 700250803

Pay Point Number: 902076 / School ID Number: 4028002050009

Newsletter 02 23 January 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians

To all our new learners and parents who enrolled after our first newsletter, welcome to Laerskool Paardekraal. We hope your stay with us will be a long, happy and rewarding one.

Please take note of the following important matters for this week:

FEEDBACK ON FIRST EIGHT DAYS OF SCHOOL:

Thank you to all our parents and learners who made the first few days of the new term so easy for all. The children settled in quickly and they started to learn on the first day of their return to school. I am also very proud of our Grade RR, Grade R and Grade 1 learners who attended the "Big School" for the first time. I was told by the teachers that they are a very clever bunch of children and that most of them have very good manners. Keep it up and continue to make us proud.

Sick children still arrive at school and unfortunately, we will continue to call parents to fetch sick children from school. **PLEASE KEEP SICK CHILDREN AT HOME.**

STATIONERY:

Thank you to all parents who've sent photocopy paper and other necessities to school already. It helps us a great deal to start the new year with everything in place. Please top stationery up regularly and teach your child to be responsible for his or her belongings. If stationery is clearly marked, lost stationery can then be returned to the owner if found. Should you experience any problems with stationery, please consult with the class teacher for assistance.

SCHOOL TIMES:

During last week, we have experienced once again that learners are left to wait for transport for very long periods of time, before being fetched. Several children were only fetched long after 16:15. This is a huge concern to me as these children are very traumatised by not knowing whether they will be fetched or not. Very few of the learners who were left at school had any contact details in their bags. Learners should be gone from school by latest 14:00. Should the transport driver be responsible for the late fetching of a learner, I suggest that the parents deal with the driver accordingly or find alternative reliable transport for your children. The same goes for children who arrive late for school. Last week some learners were dropped off at 08:20 only, without any explanation at all. Should children arrive later than 07:20 in the morning, the school gates will be closed, and the transport should take the child back home. Late coming as well as fetching your child late, can and will not be tolerated.

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SCHOOL FEES:

A huge thank you to all parents who paid the school fees up to date. Thanks to you we were able to supply the children with the necessities to start the learning process for 2026. February fees are already due in a few days...

I urge parents to please pay the school fees regularly, as it creates a bigger debt when your account falls in arrears and are then handed over. Please note that all extra cost for lawyers, court fees and interest, will be for your own account. Please parents, do the right thing and pay for your child's education. It is the right thing to do.

Many parents feel that education should be free. I think the word "FREE" is misinterpreted when it comes to the payment of school fees. The word "FREE" means that you are "FREE" to enrol your child into a school of your choice, but then you have to respect and adhere to the rules and regulations of that specific school. Laerskool Paardekraal is a **FEE-PAYING** school, which means that all parents should pay the school fees if they want to enjoy the quality of education offered at our school. It also means that our school is a school of choice, and should you seek to enrol your child into Laerskool Paardekraal, you are obliged to pay the set school fees without delay. There are schools in the area that offers "FREE" education for those parents who don't want to pay their dues.

Please note that a decision was taken to hand accounts in arrears over on a quarterly basis. This means that accounts in arrears will be handed over every three months. Unfortunately, all extra costs incurred will be for the defaulter's account.

EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS:

We have received applications for exemption already. Please note that the state made it very clear that they cannot afford to subsidise fee-paying schools any longer and that the parents who enrolled their children into a fee-paying school should be paying the school fees. It was the parents' choice to enrol the child in Laerskool Paardekraal, knowing that it is a fee-paying school. Such parents should not apply for financial assistance, as school fees are payable when a child is enrolled into this school. There are many factors to consider before assistance can be offered. If you do not stay in the direct area of the school and pay for transport to get your child to school, exemption cannot be considered, as there are schools closer to your residence. All incomplete applications and applications with incomplete or missing attachments can unfortunately not be considered. Please be honest and truthful on your application, as all applications will be validated by an outside company to determine the correctness of your employment status, address, income tax status, cell phone numbers, outstanding accounts you are paying, arrears municipal accounts, bond cost or rent, vehicle finance, etc. All fraudulent applications will be declined, and the applicants will be prosecuted.

CHILDREN SLEEPING IN CLASS:

We have a couple of children who are fast asleep during class time. Teachers sometimes struggle to wake such children up, as they are really into a deep sleep. Many children inform us that they go to bed very late after playing games on Mommy's or Daddy's cell phone. Please do not allow this to happen.

Please ensure that your children go to bed early, between 20:00 and 21:00 (depending on the time they get up in the morning) to get at least eight hours of proper, uninterrupted sleep, that will prevent them from sleeping at school. We do appreciate your kind assistance regarding this matter.

HOMEWORK:

It is of utmost importance for children to do given homework properly every day. Many teachers indicated to me already that many children do not do their homework at home. Please note that the homework counts for marks as well and that no homework means no marks. Children should come to school prepared to learn and that means that all homework and other preparations should be done at home. We need to assist our children to adopt a culture of learning in order for them to excel at school and also later in life.

DAIRIES:

Thank you to the many parents who have completed the contact information in the diaries. Please make sure you complete the information sheet in the front of the diary for us to have your updated contact details handy in case of an emergency. I would like to encourage our parents to please complete the detail in the front of the diary if you haven't done so yet.

WATER BOTTELS AND HATS:

Please send your child to school with a water bottle and a hat to wear during break times. We prefer a child to have his or her own water bottle, instead of waiting in a line to drink from a tap where other children drank before. It is more hygienic to drink from a water bottle instead of drinking out of your hand under running water. A hat will assist the children during break time when they are outside in the sun. Please mark the water bottle and hat clearly in order for us to return lost property to the lawful owner.

REGISTRATION ON WHATSAPP GROUPS:

Please go to www.paardies.co.za/ to register yourself on your child's grade communication group. We have posted links for each grade on the home page of the website, and all you have to do is to click on the link to be added to the communication group of the grade you want to join. Please encourage your child's transport driver to also join these groups. It will give them the much-needed information they need to keep your children safe. Most files sent to you will be in PDF format that is supported by most phones. Please feel free to send an email to info@paardies.co.za, should you have any suggestions or concerns. It is our aim to keep all parents well informed and happy.

FUNDRAISING:

Our first Fund-Raiser kicked off already and is aimed at Valentine's Day. There are cash prizes up for grabs. All raffle forms must please be back at school latest 13 February, as we would like to finalize the raffle on that day.

All children who have R20-00 or more on their raffle lists, and whose raffle lists are handed in before or on 14 February, can wear their red and white Valentine's clothes on 14 February without paying. I believe that there are certain classes who are in competition to see who can raise the most funds. I will surely keep you updated about the outcome of this challenge. Thank you for your support and your assistance with this fund raiser. It is much appreciated.

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 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***

ATHLETICS PRACTICE AND FRIENDLY MEETING - 2026:

Practice: U/10 - U /13

Tuesday and Wednesday 13:40 - 15:00

Practice is **not compulsory**. If you cannot arrange transport, please do not send your child to practice. Please arrange transport accordingly should you want your child to attend practice. Coaches **are not** available after 15:00 to ensure your child's safety.

Friendly athletics meeting:

Place: Millennium Primary School-

Date: 29/01/2026

Time: To be confirmed

Learners will be transported to and from the event in the school transport. Learners are to be fetched from school after the event timeously.

Parents may attend the event and take their children once they have competed in their event.

We have a very large athletics team this year and we currently do not have enough athletics shirts for all athletes.

- Athletes are to wear navy blue shorts and their Paardekraal T-SHIRT.

- All athletes run barefoot.
- Letters went out today to all selected athletes for this meeting.
- Indemnity forms will follow on Monday. Please complete the forms and send it back to school, as no child will be allowed to take part when indemnity forms are not handed in.
- Only 2 athletes per event will participate at this friendly event.

CHILDREN STILL ABSENT FROM SCHOOL:

There are still names of children appearing on our class registers, but the children did not return to school yet.

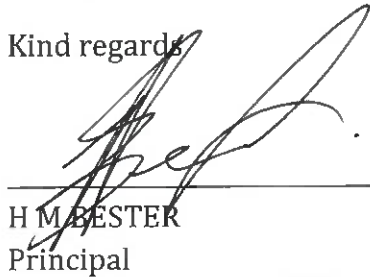
Please know that Tuesday, 27 January 2026, is the 10th school day, and by law all children who did not attend the school during the first 10 days, without proper arrangements made, will automatically be removed from the school's administration program. Should you then wish for your child to attend this school again, you will have to re-apply for admission and will be put on a waiting list.

I urge you to make sure your child, if still at home, attend school as from Monday, to prevent automatic deregistration.

GENERAL:

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend with your families. Please stay safe and healthy.

Kind regards



H M BESTER
Principal

"Be miserable, or motivate yourself. Whatever has to be done, it's always your choice." - Wayne Dyer

VISION & MISSION OF LAERSKOOL PAARDEKRAAL

- Our vision is a smart **delivery** of **quality public education**, which promotes a **dynamic citizenship** for **socio-economic growth and development** in **Gauteng and South Africa**.
- We will be at the **cutting edge of curriculum delivery** and provide **access to quality lifelong learning opportunities**.



The School Prayer

Dear Lord,

Make our school a place of **laughter and friendship**,

Make our school a place where we **learn**,

Make our school a place where we are **kind and**

considerate.

Make our school a place where we can share our **hopes and dreams**,

Thank you for the people who teach us all we **know**,

Thank you for our school which will help us **grow and grow**.

Amen