



CURRO

NEWSLETTER

Century City

Term 1. Issue 3

3 February 2017

House Committee Members & Western Province Team



NOTICES

* SCHOOL TIMES

| | |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| Mon | 07:45-15:00 |
| Tues | 07:45-13:50 |
| Thurs | Sport ends at 16:30 |
| Wed | 07:45-13:50 (sport matches) |
| Fri | 07:45-14:00 |

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE GRADE 9 OUTINGS CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 3 FEB- HIRSCH'S
- 7 FEB- MUSEUM

From the Executive Head's Desk...

Newsletters

We trust that you have been receiving our regular electronic communiques, as they have been coming through to you in a variety of formats. We hope that mums and dads feel that they are being kept up to speed with the many highlights that made up the first three weeks of the new Curro Century City High School year. As you are aware, we are trying to channel and streamline all electronic communication through each phase of the school: Castle news, Primary and then High School newsletters. Where a good deal of this comes through as daily reminders, alerts or specific information regarding changes to or cancelling of some school activity. We are also posting on your personal email regular communiques that are pertinent to all parents.

School Security

I thought it appropriate to bring parents up to speed with our Curro security and guarding systems. The measures that we take to monitor, maintain and improve on the security cover that we are offering around the clock.

□ Guarding ... We have gate guards on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. We are working on upgrading the guards so that they may carry out their duties with high levels of commitment, watchfulness and expertise. We ask parents to understand should they stop you at the gate.

□ Neighbourhood watch ... The school is an active participant in and member of the Century City neighbourhood watch system. This involves Century City security vehicles deployed, at any given time of two 24/7 action response vehicles that patrol the streets of Century City.

□ Security cameras ... We have 16 strategically placed security cameras positioned around the school to monitor the boundary during the day and at night act as an alarm system.

□ Understanding the complexities of our schools security needs ... We need everyone to understand the closure of gates, the stopping if no stickers are visible, or the signing out of a child during the day. To drive with extreme caution and at no more than 5 km/hr through the carpark.

With people and cars jostling for space, and particularly, with the children needing freedom to walk from their mum's vehicle to a safe pavement zone.

Please be patient whilst in the drop and go areas, and being alert in order to prevent or warn against potential threats.

Digital Parenting

Technology is here to stay. Mobile devices and the internet offer your children an infinite world of possibilities. Exciting, creative and innovative.

How do you keep this experience positive? Understand the following topics:

- Understanding your child's use of technology.
 - The benefits and potential challenges around technology use.
 - How to guide children in appropriate and safe interactions.
 - The law surrounding technology usage.
- Needless to say, with the explosion of smart technology and the digital world's growing influence in the lives of our children, the whole matter of digital parenting has become a hot topic and one that all parents are having to wrestle with. Technology is a poor substitute for personal interaction.

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Out in public, children have to know that life is not lived off the screen. It's interesting and good to be curious about other people, to learn how to listen. It teaches them social and emotional intelligence, which is critical for success in life.

When your child receives 34 texts at night after they get into bed, adding to the sleep deprivation are so common and harmful to them. The next challenge is the inability to communicate in the real world with real life people.

So much of today's communication is digital and children are using this form of communication more often than real life communication. (Children will sit together in a group and communicate amongst each other using the phone). This is creating an immense void in their ability to communicate effectively with others. The challenge with this is the lack of Emotional Intelligence that happens by default. Children have less of an ability to deal with conflict and stress. Reading through a very good article on the subject of 'Digital Addiction', I felt that the following section was worth sharing with our parents. (The full article can be found on *The Guardian* website:

<http://www.theguardian.co.za/for-parents/cellphone-tablet-safety.html>).

Correct information

Please notify us if your personal details have changed. Especially email address, cell numbers, etc. When group or bulk emails are sent out, we are finding that a good number are bouncing back as a result of changes of email addresses that have not been communicated to the school.

A Final Thought

Some words of wisdom from Dr Michael Thompson author of, amongst other books, *Raising Cain*: "In the years ahead, think of what you've liked or loved about the good people in your life - your husband, your father, mother, a favourite gran or grandfather or friend - and speak openly of those qualities with your child."

Sean Friedenthal



Staff First Aid Training



Social Braai and Play Performances



*Thanks to all the parents, staff and learners for attending the social.
We hope that we will continue to develop into a prosperous school community.*