

DATE: 23 February 2024 / Amberfield College Newsletter

Weekly activities

MONDAY:	
TUESDAY:	
WEDNESDAY:	
THURSDAY:	
FRIDAY:	
SATURDAY:	

UNIFORM

Our Uniform shop is open
 Monday, Wednesday & Friday 07:00 – 12:00
 Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 – 15:00
 Last Saturday of the Month 09:00 – 12:00

Word from the executive principal

Dear Parents

Please take note of the upcoming PRC election dates.
 26 February – Preschool (Gr RRR- Gr R)
 27 Feb – Primary School (Gr 1-7)
 28 Feb – High School (Gr 8 -12)

Kind Regards:
 Mr M Ponnem.
 Executive Principal

“At the end of the day
 the most overwhelming
 key to a child’s success
 is the positive involve-
 ment of parents.”

— Jane D Hull

Important dates and events

*Please see the D6 Connect App for the detailed calendar

BANKING DETAILS

Bank: Nedbank
 Account number : 1160699062
 Branch Code : 198765
 Account Holder : Amberfield College
 Reference : Family Code

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 Email: debtors@amberfieldcollege.co.za
 Tel: 012 865 0101

Remember
 TO DOWNLOAD THE
 D6 COMMUNICATOR!



We will update you on
 important school info daily!

Contact us for more information



www.amberfieldcollege.co.za 012 534 3344 info@amberfieldcollege.co.za

More Amberfield news!

Pre – Primary news:

Cake and Candy sale

Our cake and candy sale was a huge success and we would like to thank the parents once again for their generous donations.

Contacting the staff

Please adhere to the times given for communication between yourself and the teacher.

The teacher will only respond to messages during the following times.

6:30-7:30 in the mornings (after 7:30 the teacher is busy in the classroom)

13:00 – 16:00 in the afternoons (After 16:00 no staff will respond to messages as they are busy with their own families)

We request that parents respect the teachers times.

Please do not contact the principal. Please contact the teacher first, and if it is not solved, then only can you contact the Principal via email.

School clothes

It seems that there are many of parents not marking their children clothes. Unfortunately, the staff will then mark the clothes with a permanent marker as there have been parents fighting with the staff if a child is returning home without an item of clothing or it is the wrong item of clothing. As per our communication on the Orientation Day, NO staff member will be held liable for lost or mixed up clothing.

It is the parent's responsibility to mark every single item of clothing that the learner is wearing.

Aftercare

Please adhere to the times.

Aftercare is from 13:15 – 17:30. A **penalty fee** will be charged for parents fetching their children **after 17:30**. If you are stuck in traffic due to loadshedding please inform the Aftercare staff (Their cellphone numbers was handed out in the information booklet on the orientation day)

Special days for Term 1

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Friday 23 Feb: | Backwards day
(Dress your little one inside out, socks on the hands, shoes on the wrong feet etc.) |
| Friday 8 March: | Water fun day |
| Wednesday 20 March: | Schools close for the holiday (There will be holiday aftercare available parents need to inform their class teacher whether their little one will be at holiday care as we need to plan how much food we need to make.) |

Kind Regards

Ms L Pretorius

Pre-Primary Principal



More Amberfield news!

Primary School:

Greetings from the Primary School. It has been a busy couple of weeks at the primary school. Here are some of the highlights:

- Foundation Phase Cake and Candy Sale – This was held on Friday, 9 February and was a huge success.
- A big thank you to all the parents who contributed to this day. Your generosity has allowed us to raise a whopping R13 000 for new PE equipment in the Foundation Phase.
- Valentine's Day – Love was certainly in the air on 14 February as learners were greeted by Miss Valentine and Mister Valentino, who handed out sweets and sweet words to our learners as they arrived dressed in the red, white and pink attire.



- A very big thank you to our amazing parents who donated items for the charity drive. It will be distributed to retirement homes soon.
- School photos were taken this week on 21 February for Grade 2, 3, 5 and 22 February for grade 6, 7. Details on how to order photos will be shared via WhatsApp.

PRC Elections 2024:

The elections for new PRC members will take place from 26 to 29 February in the auditorium at 18:00pm. Nomination forms have been shared via WhatsApp and email. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please fill out a form and drop off in the box at reception. Together we can make a difference!

Staff News:

We are sad to say goodbye to Mrs Human, who will be leaving us as from the end of February. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours. Mrs Human will be replaced by Ms K Govender as from 1 March 2024.

Dates to diarise:

22 February	Intervention classes end
23 February	Jeans and Tekkies Day (last Friday of the month)
26 February	Control Tests start (grade 4-7 learners will write in the morning, normal teaching and learning will continue straight after the test. School will come out at normal time until the school closes.)
5 March	Control Tests end
8 March	Foundation Phase Continuous Assessments end
8 – 10 March	Grade 6 Camp (Final payment 27 February 2024)
15 March	Intermediate Phase Cake and Candy Sale. More details to follow.
20 March	Reports handed out
	SCHOOL CLOSES

Kind Regards
Mrs B Derbyshire
Primary School Principal

More Amberfield news!

High School News:

Our trip to Europe is going full steam ahead. We will arrange a meeting with Trip-to-Travel soon to discuss the final arrangements and the details of 2025 trip.



The cycle tests for term 1 start soon. The timetable was distributed earlier in the week. Please encourage the learners to prepare well for their tests but at the same time make sure that they do eat healthy and get enough rest.



The Grade 12 English Home Language learners are introduced to the Harkness Method to plan an interview. The questions are based on their understanding of the SONA 2024 speech. This method involves learner led discussions, a safe environment to ensure all opinions are respected and the round table approach.

Thank you to all the donors who donated blood on 19/02/2024



We are planning a bigger and better Science expo at school in 2024. Mr Matambo and Mrs Sewsunker attended a workshop to make this possible. Thank you teachers for giving up your Saturdays for the school and the learners.

Our grade 12 learners extracting DNA from strawberries. Exciting times in the high school.



Kind regards
Mrs. H. Share
High School Principal

More Amberfield news!



Primary School Culture News:

Dear Parents /Guardians

With the cultural activities in full speed, the learners are settling into their perspective activities, and enjoying every minute of it!

Public Speaking - During Public Speaking in Term 1 we have focused on two main areas: speaking in front of an audience and writing an argumentative orators speech. On the speaking side we have looked at how you can use your voice, facing the fear of being in front of an audience and how to use your hands and move your body on the stage. When writing the speech we have focused on choosing a topic, developing a structure and how to form arguments.

Art - Let's explore some exciting activities for Grade 1 - 3 learners. Thus far, the learners have embarked on a creative journey, starting with drawing self-portraits of themselves. These self-portraits allow them to express their unique personalities and perspectives. Building on their artistic skills, they've also honed their cutting and pasting abilities by creating a delightful fish. The process of assembling different shapes and colors to form a fish encourages creativity and fine motor development. And what better way to celebrate love and friendship than by crafting Valentine's Day cards. The Grade 1 - 3 learners have poured their hearts into making heartfelt cards, spreading joy and affection to their loved ones. Being the month of love, last week they took a break from sketching to create beautiful valentine cards using water colour paper and water colour painting techniques. The Grade 4-7 learners also experimented with the theme of love during their previous lessons.



Dance - The Grade 1 - 3 Dance Crew are learning something new this year - cultural dancing! "Even the most beautiful flower withers in time." - Zulu proverb! The dancers have been introduced to a new dance style this year. They are learning an IsiZulu dance. For the remainder of the term, the dancers will continue to practice this expressive and rhythmic dance style. Whereas the Grade 4 - 7 hip hop dance group has decided to unveil another style to the party - the Amapiano group!



Hindu Student Council (HSC) - We are so thrilled to have your kids join us at HSC. For the past two weeks we have been engaging our learners in arts and crafts, a creative way to get the year started! Our students have created the flag of India in commemoration of the Inauguration of the Ram Mandir which was recently built in Ayodhya.

Christian Student Council - During CSC, Mrs Ramdeo ministers to the learners at their level of understanding of Christianity. The session for the Grade 1 - 3 learners include prayer, worship and Bible stories. With the Grade 4- 7 learners Mrs Ramdeo has covered the topic of LOVE over the past few weeks. She focused on 1 Corinthians 13 and shared about the unconditional, AGAPE love of Jesus Christ. They are taught how to pray, share testimonies of how the Word has impacted their lives in the week following, how to witness to their friends, how to do devotions and how to display the character of Jesus Christ in their daily lives.

Marimbas - Marimbas is officially in full swing with the selection process concluded and learners are becoming more familiar with the instrument. The first lessons served as an introduction to handling of the beaters, learning and playing basic notes and scales.

Drama - The Grade 1 - 3 drama learners have been studying a poem about verbs over the last few weeks. They have incorporated the poem with actions as well. They are learning how to be in sync with each other as well as doing movements in opposite directions. The Grade 4 - 7 drama learners have currently been focusing on Role Playing during their lessons. Role play demonstrates how to use language in real life with a focus on communication. Role play benefits: motivates and engages students.



Singing - The singing learners started working on their group song. Every Tuesday going forward for this term the learners will work on the group song. Learners also learned about the importance of breathing, posture and projection.

All cultural activities will continue as per usual during the course of the term, and end on the 15th of March 2025.

High School Culture News:

Dear parents / guardians

High School Festivals Coming Up In Term 2

The Amberfield College festivals serve as a means for learners to participate in a competition encompassing environment. The festivals also aim to create the standard of work that Amberfield wishes to produce, enhance and present to the broader public. All learners partaking in a festival must attend a run-through of how the programme will be done on the day of the festival to aid the flow of the programme. These festivals are open to the entire school and to our sister schools (2024 neighbouring schools). All heads of the different activities must scout for the new talent that arises from these festivals and allow for these learners to form part of their extra mural group. Heads of the different activities should allow for their learners to partake in as many internal festivals possible where applicable.

Dates are coming soon...

Kind regards

Ms Haughton

Head of Culture: Primary School

Kind regards

Mr L Mukhabele

Head of Culture: High School

More Amberfield news!



Primary School:

Our learners have been performing really well thus far this term. The Swimming team have swam in 3 gala's thus far and we are at the moment sitting in second place in the B – league. Our U/13 Cricket boys are currently undefeated this term.

Please note we are starting with our Winter Sports next week Monday 26 February 2024:

Mini Netball – Mondays and Wednesdays

Mini Hockey – Tuesdays and Thursdays

Mini Soccer - Mondays and Wednesdays

Mini Rugby - Tuesdays and Thursdays

U/09 – U/13 Rugby - Tuesdays and Thursdays

U/09/10 Netball - Mondays and Wednesdays

U/11 – 13 Netball - Tuesdays and Thursdays

U/09/10 Hockey - Tuesdays and Thursdays

U/11 – 13 Soccer - Mondays and Wednesdays

U/09/10 Soccer - Tuesdays and Thursdays

**“HARD WORK BEATS
TALENT WHEN TALENT
DOESN'T WORK HARD”**
-TIM NOTKE

High School:

We want to congratulate the softball girls on their last few games.

The Juniors and seniors are going through to the playoffs.



Kind Regards
Mr N Liebenberg
Head of Sport: Primary School

Kind Regards
Ms R Hurn
Head of Sport: High School

More Amberfield news!

Therapy News:

IS TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME MESSING WITH YOUR HEAD?



Technology is on the rise in all age groups - from toddlers to pre-schoolers, to middle childhood ages, to adolescents and adults. It is no wonder that toddlers and pre-schoolers are introduced to screens before they are introduced to books. Recent research estimates that ninety percent (90%) of adolescents use social media both day and night.

In the course of my therapeutic interventions with young people that span a few decades; there is noticeably a marked increase in depression, anxiety, stress, suicidal ideation, self-injury, eating disorders, sleeplessness, attention and concentration disorders, poor academic performance, emotional numbness and aggression. Could “digital cocaine” be partly or largely responsible for this?

Many young people confirm that they spend hours on their devices. Parents confirm that their children are “too much” on their phones.

“Digital Cocaine refers to smart devices we use tirelessly; repression, restriction and restraint of which leads to mental, emotional and psychological breakdown which sporadically leads to depression amongst other factors.” – Daniel Ayuba.

The reason why it is compared to cocaine and heroin is because of the similar pattern of addiction that is formed in the brain when smart devices are abused. Excess dopamine is released in areas of the brain that are responsible for decision-making processes as well as higher mental processes causing a euphoric sensation that leaves you begging for more screen time. When children are left to their own devices (excuse the pun), children will always opt for the screen instead of schoolwork.

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO?

- Monitor your and your children’s emotional states.
- Model appropriate lifestyle and behaviour patterns. Walk the talk.
- Limit screen time by taking the device away for reversal of the addiction to be possible.
- Introduce more time for family interaction, play hard in nature, laugh and talk more about all sorts of topics that are relevant for emotional and mental growth.

For more information: Noah Webster Educational Foundation

<https://nwef.org/2021/09/29/your-childs-brain-on-digital-cocaine-with-brad-huddleston/>

Kind regards

Mrs Gail Sentoo - School Social Worker

More Amberfield news!



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EXCITING NEWS SPECIAL SCHOLAR Gym membership!

Planet Fitness has joined forces with your child's school to launch an exciting new wellness initiative. Now offering **specials on all joining fees** to help you reach your health & fitness goals.

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