



TAMBOERSKLOOF PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Tel: 021 423 6338 Fax: 021 424 0565 Email: news@tkps.co.za

IMPORTANT DATES

20 September Schools close, term three
1 October Schools open, term four

GENERAL NEWS

- We would herewith like to inform you of a significant decision made by the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) that will impact the teacher staffing and funding at our school beginning in 2025.

Context and Reason for Changes

Typically, the state funds one class teacher for every 34 learners at government schools. Our school has always strived to maintain smaller class sizes by employing additional teachers, which we fund through school fees. However, due to significant budget shortfalls faced by the WCED—prompted by receiving only 64% of the needed funds from the national government for negotiated wage agreements—there has been a decision to reduce the number of government-funded teaching posts.

Specific Impact on Our School

On 30 August, we were notified that starting from 2025, one teaching post at our school will no longer be funded by the government. The financial responsibility for this post will shift to the school.

Immediate and Future Planning

Over the coming weeks, our SGB and SMT will look at how we can best accommodate the financial impact, which may include a slight increase in class sizes next year. We are committed to managing these changes carefully to ensure that they minimally affect the quality of education we provide. We are actively engaging with the WCED and have raised our concerns through appropriate channels. Discussions continue at the provincial and national levels to seek remedial actions regarding the funding shortfalls and their impacts on teacher staffing.

Call to Action

We urge all parents to pay school fees on time. Your timely payments are crucial as they directly support our ability to maintain teaching staff and manage additional financial challenges effectively.

Your Involvement and Support

We understand these updates may be concerning, and we are here to discuss any questions you may have. Your understanding and cooperation are invaluable during these times, and we appreciate your continued support for our school community.

- **We currently have two openings on our School Governing Body (SGB).** If you are interested in applying or would like more information, please contact the school office. Nominations must be submitted by 9 September. Should there be more than two candidates, a by-election will be held on 2 October.
- **Please note that the ordering and packing of stationery for the 2025 school year has been outsourced to an external company.** Order forms will be distributed to learners to take home before the end of this term.
- **On Friday, 23 August, our Grade 3 learners had an enriching field trip to the planetarium** where they enjoyed a captivating show about the planets. After the show, they had lunch on the steps outside the museum, followed by an exploratory visit to the South African Iziko Museum. The museum offered fascinating exhibits ranging from historical lifestyles and African wildlife to dinosaurs and sea life. Dressed smartly in their school uniforms, the students represented Tamboerskloof Primary with exemplary behaviour and respect. A special thank you to Mr Toefy for accompanying the Grade 3s and making this educational outing possible.
- **We will be celebrating World Literacy Week from 9 - 13 September.** This week promises to be filled with engaging activities centred around books, including fun quizzes and discussions on book-related topics. We also invite all learners to come dressed as their favourite book character on 11 September, a special day that also marks our school's birthday. Let's make it a memorable week of learning and celebration!
- **On Monday, 2 September, a team from Colgate visited our Grade R to 4 learners.** They delivered an informative talk on healthy and unhealthy foods and emphasized the importance of brushing teeth twice daily for two minutes. To make brushing more enjoyable, they taught the students a catchy song to sing while brushing. Each student received a new toothbrush and a tube of Colgate toothpaste, courtesy of the Colgate team.
- **Our Grade 6 learners recently attended the Back2Basics camp in Grabouw,** and for many, it was their first time camping in tents. The camp, which focuses on leadership, provided our students with valuable lessons beyond the classroom confines. Despite the cold and rainy conditions, the spirits remained high. Highlights included the delicious food, engaging activities, and enthusiastic facilitators. The only drawback was the weather. Overall, the students thoroughly enjoyed their adventurous outing!

SPORTS, CLUBS & SOCIETIES

- **U9 Soccer:** Our U9 soccer team played their first interschool game on 22 August at St Michael's field. Despite losing, they displayed great spirit and enthusiasm, representing Tamboerskloof proudly.
- **U11 Soccer:** On 20 August, our U11 team faced off in two consecutive matches at St Michael's fields. They narrowly lost to Llandudno Primary but bounced back with a win against Sea Point Primary, thanks to Mason Sultanie's two goals and a solid team effort.
- **U13 Soccer:** The U13 A team showed excellent form with a 9-0 win against Sea Point on 8 August. They continued their strong performance with a 6-0 win in a rematch against Llandudno under challenging weather conditions on 22 August. Meanwhile, our U13 B team played against DISA Primary's U13 A team, showing promise despite a 4-0 loss.
- **U13 Girls Soccer:** On 16 August, our U13 girls faced a tough team from DISA Primary at St Michael's field. They lost but gained valuable experience to bring into their next matches.
- **U11 Girls Netball:** The U11 girls netball team played against Llandudno and Sea Point Primary, losing both matches but showing marked improvement and building team spirit.
- **U13 Girls Netball:** Playing at home against Sea Point, our U13 girls netball team felt the impact of limited match practice, losing 6-2 despite strong support from home fans.

- **Chess:** Our 10-member chess team hosted Herzlia Sea Point on 14 August in our library, securing a 6 1/2 - 3 1/2 victory. Special congratulations to Shafeeq Ras and Raaed Petersen on their competitive debuts—great job and looking forward to more successes!

Each team has shown resilience and commitment, and we're excited for the upcoming matches. Go Tambi!

FINANCE

- **Parents, you are cordially invited to attend our school's annual budget and ratification meeting** to be held on 24 October in our school hall at 17:30pm. The proposed school budget for 2025 will be discussed and explained and you will be given the opportunity to give input and/or ask any questions you may have.
- **The School Budget for 2025 will be ready for inspection from 11 -24 October.** If you would like to view the budget, please make an appointment with the school office.
- **Parents, a reminder that if your aftercare fees are still in arrears as of 20 September, your child will not be permitted to return to aftercare in Term 4.** To avoid this, please ensure that your fees are paid and up to date. Thank you for your attention to this matter.
- **Statements were sent out on 3 September 2024.**
- **Regarding outstanding school fees, a reminder that TKPS is a fee-paying school and we rely on these fees for enormous day-to-day operational costs.** This includes, but is not limited to: municipal bills, staff salaries, maintenance, IT, administrative and printing costs, educational resources and teaching aids. Parents, we urge you to honour your agreement with the school and to pay your fees.
- **Building on the previous message, parents who have agreed to special payment plans for school fees are reminded to adhere strictly to these arrangements.** Failure to follow your designated payment plan may lead to your account being transferred to a third-party debt collector, which could adversely affect your credit record. Please ensure compliance to avoid any complications.

"Every day holds the possibility of a miracle. Let's make the most of each one!" — **Elizabeth David**