



Wynberg Boys' Junior School

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24 October 2016

Dear Parents

Thank you for your attendance and positive responses to our Budget Meeting for 2017. The vote of confidence in the schools financial management process and trust shown by you, the parents, is greatly appreciated.

Below is a formal communication summarizing the outcomes of the meeting:

2017 SCHOOL FEES

In terms of the South African Schools' Act a meeting of parents must be held every year at which the annual budget and school fees for the following year are approved. Once approved, such school fees are binding on all parents, and are **legally enforceable**.

The meeting of parents to approve the budget and fees for 2017 was held on **Thursday 20 October 2016**. A total of 65 parents were present at the meeting, and passed a vote to approve the budget and fees as set out below. A summary of the proposed fee was issued to you in a previous newsletter, and the presentation was based on this.

The budget for 2017 features:

- A fee increase aimed at retaining all current services, whilst effecting essential improvements wherever possible. This has been achieved through stringent controls in all departments and very careful consideration of the needs of the school. An **annual fee of R29 920** was approved by the parent body at the meeting. This is an increase of 8.01% on the 2016 fee.
- **Early payment discounts**, as an incentive towards prompt settlement of the year's fees in advance.
- The content of the **official school programme** has been clearly defined, and all these aspects of your sons' education are covered by the inclusive fee. Additional charges will apply to services extra to the programme; these will be unavailable to fee defaulters. A copy of the programme is displayed on the official notice board outside the office.
- Structures are in place for parents to make additional **voluntary tax-deductible donations** into specific areas of their choice, on the capital-expenditure side. Details of how this can be done will be provided on request. Tax Certificates for Section 18A Donations will be used for these.

Please note that the school fee is an annual amount, payable IN FULL before 1 February 2017. However, in order to accommodate the needs and best interests of our parent community, it has been agreed that the annual fee may, as a concession, be paid in any of the following ways:

- **if paid in full by 31 December 2016**, R29 920, less an early settlement discount of 7,5% R2 244 (R27 676)
- **if paid in full by 28 February 2017**, R29 920, less an early settlement discount of 5% R1 496 (R28 424) **or**,
- **R7 480 per term**, payable by the end of the first week of each term, **or**
- **10 equal debit order payments of R2 992 each**. The first such debit order payment will be deducted from your account on **3 or 17 February 2017**, with following deductions being activated on the first working day of each month, or mid-month, from March through to November.

Please note the following regarding debit orders:

- * If you wish to pay by debit order, please complete the yellow debit order form, which will be sent home next week with your son and return it to the fees office by 30 November 2016. Please mark whether you wish to have first working day, or mid-month deductions.
- * If the bank rejects any of the debit order deductions, due to there being insufficient funds in your account, you will be liable for any costs the school may incur. It is therefore important and in your own best interests that you ensure that there are sufficient funds in your bank account on the above dates. You will also be liable for costs if you cancel the debit order with the bank, but do not also inform the school timeously.

It has become increasingly dangerous and expensive for the school to handle cash. We therefore request all parents to make use of the debit order system of payment where possible. Parents may also pay by credit card, debit card or cheque, to avoid cash, but we must point out that these options are all more expensive and less convenient for you than using the debit order system. Direct electronic transfers or payments at banks are strongly encouraged for those not using debit orders.

In terms of the Government's Fee Exemption Regulations, families may apply for a fee rebate if the combined total income of both parents is below a certain threshold and school fees are beyond their means. Applications must be made annually on the prescribed form available from the school. The fees administrator, Mrs. Stupart, can explain the complex regulations to you, and help you fill in the form. Please note that a new application has to be made every year. The form for 2017 can be collected from 11 January 2017, and must be completed and returned to school by **15 February 2017.**

Please note that any rebate or exemption granted is at the expense of other parents in the school, and not at State expense. New arrivals at the school will not be granted rebates where they have indicated on their application forms that they will not be applying for rebates. We expect all parents to contribute something to the school, even if they qualify for exemption. You voluntarily enrolled your son at a fee-paying school and therefore cannot expect free education!

FAILURE TO PAY FEES ON TIME

Where a default on payment occurs, where fees fall into arrears exceeding 60 days and an account is handed over to an outside agency for collection, interest at the mora rate will be levied from the date on which hand over occurred. Legal action will also be taken to recover the fees for the **full year**, plus any additional costs incurred. In such cases both parents will be blacklisted by our debt collector until the debt plus costs is settled. Recent legal precedents indicate that both parents are liable for fees, irrespective of current marital status.

FEES FOR SERVICES OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICIAL CORE PROGRAMME OF THE SCHOOL:

The following are voluntary additional services offered by the school, and are **not** subject to any rebate, or the regulations, or increase, applicable to school fees.

Grade R fees will be R29 920 for the year. These fees may also be paid in the ways indicated above.

After Care fees will be R9 320-00 for the year. These fees may also be paid in instalments.

A table of all fees is available on request, or may be viewed on the official notice board outside the office.

We would like to thank the vast majority of parents who regularly and timeously pay their fees, so contributing to the uninterrupted delivery of a quality education for your sons. We are proud of the financial stability of our school and the achievements of the Governing Body, Parents, Staff, PTA and Supporters' Club in keeping it this way!

Yours sincerely

**C. POLEMAN (Principal)
(On behalf of the School Governing Body)**