

REDDAM HOUSE
UMHLANGA



NEWSLETTER | 25 May 2020 | VOLUME 8

FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents

This past week has seen yet another historic milestone as our staff and students have successfully navigated their way through the first ever mid-year online examinations. In the recent survey conducted amongst our College parents and students, over 70% of our students (Grades 8 to 12) indicated that they found online learning to be effective during the closure of schools and over 80% of our students indicated that they felt supported by their teachers whilst learning online throughout the term. This was further confirmed in the survey conducted by Grade 8 to 11 parents who, if given the choice whether to send their children back to school or continue with online learning, over 50% chose the latter. At the same time, it must be borne in mind that almost half of the parents in Grades 8 to 11 equally wished to see a return to 'normal' schooling. This was not the case amongst our Grade 12 parents and students, however, with over 75% indicating a desire to return to school to engage face to face with their teachers. It is understandable that, in an already stressful final year of schooling, the Matric students, supported by their parents, wanted to get closer engagement with their teachers in order to alleviate their anxieties around the Matric curriculum to some extent.

Following the Minister of Basic Education's announcement on the evening of Tuesday 19 May confirming the gradual re-opening of schools from 1 June, and as our country moves to lockdown level 3, we have agreed to re-open our College in a cautious and gradual manner, starting with the Grade 12 students from Monday 1 June. We will, however, provide a hybrid education model consisting of both classroom-based and synchronous (simultaneous online) teaching to accommodate the Matric parents who wish to send their children back to school as well as those who do not. All other grades (8 to 11) will remain at home to continue with online learning until the end of the term on Friday 12 June. We will use the remainder of this term and the holiday period to gather further insight before announcing the resumption of face-to-face classroom teaching, whilst simultaneously continuing with online lessons, to other grades from the beginning of Term 3.

Our Reddam Res will open for our Matric students – both existing as well as new – from the evening of Sunday 31 May.

A letter requiring Matric parents to provide further information about their child's health profile, as well as choice as to whether to remain at home to continue with online learning or return to the College building, will be sent out this week. Returning to campus or continuing online learning is a choice that only parents can make in keeping with their child's and their family's unique health profiles.

This week has seen the beginning of an extensive sanitisation process involving both fogging and deep cleaning of all venues. Our administrative and teaching staff will, in the coming week, undergo the necessary induction and training regarding the Covid-19 pandemic and the return to school safety protocols.

The return to the physical school environment for the Grade 12 students will be used as an exemplar for the basis on which other grades will return in the future. Consequently I wish to draw these measures to the attention of all College parents.

Risk reduction protocols are in place and will be present to ensure screening, deep cleaning, personal protection equipment (PPE) being supplied and social distancing rules and regulations being adhered to.

Deep Cleaning & Sanitising

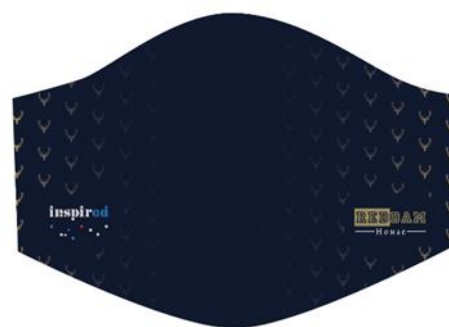
- Thorough deep cleaning and sanitising of the whole school will be completed before the Matric students return on Monday 1 June
- Thorough daily cleaning and sanitising of facilities will take place before, during and at the end of every school day. We have added more staff to the roles of cleaning supervisors to ensure safety and quality control.
- Sanitiser will be available throughout all venues in the school, with staff and students each receiving their own refillable personal sanitisers.
- Students must wash their hands and use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day especially after touching any shared surfaces such as door handles. Teachers will support them to do this.

Screening

- Necessary equipment has been procured to ensure the appropriate temperature screening is carried out on all students and staff members when entering the College premises each day.
- Matric students may only be dropped off at the College building between 07:00 and 07:30. Should a student arrive before 07:00 they will be required to remain in their parent's car. Parents must remain in their vehicle and may only depart once the 'all clear' has been given following the taking of their child's temperature. Should a student have a temperature above 37.7 degrees, their parents will be requested to remove them from the campus and to seek medical advice.
- Matric students will be screened at a specific entry point after which all Matric students will be isolated in one corridor of the College building. Every Matric student will be allocated a desk at which to sit following extensive sanitisation of their work place.
- A temporary isolation area has been set up for students and staff who may show signs of infection and are required to be removed from campus for COVID-19 testing. This isolation ward has an exterior door allowing immediate evacuation from the College building.
- All students will be required to vacate the campus on conclusion of the final support lesson at 3pm.
- No sporting or cultural activities will take place on the College campus until further notice.
- Staff and students' temperatures will be taken at the end of the school day.

PPE

- Two Reddam House branded fabric face masks will be supplied to each student and staff member free of charge.
- As per the regulations, all persons on campus will be required to wear face masks at all times. These will be supplied to our Matric students on disembarking from their parent's car and after their initial temperature check on 1 June.
- A 'welcome back to school' pack consisting of personal hand sanitisers will be issued to all students on the first day back.
- Teachers will be issued with visors to ensure that the students can see their faces – this is to ensure clear communication and rapport in the classroom.
- Students will be allowed to wear "civvies" and not the usual school uniform to ensure that clothing is washed daily. Regulations regarding "civvies" will be communicated to all students.



Social Distancing & Restriction of Movement

- Social distancing regulations – involving students and staff keeping to the 1,5m distance rule - will be adhered to and managed throughout the school day.
- Most College classrooms will see a maximum of 16 desks/ chairs but bigger venues may accommodate more numbers provided that desks/ chair remain 1,5m apart.

- Movement of students will be restricted. Individual grades will be isolated to a corridor of the College building with teaching staff moving between venues while students remain in an allocated desk in a base venue.
- Practical based or physical subjects will take place in expansive outdoor spaces.
- Each grade of students will have their own contact tracing register, which identifies daily attendance for the group and records who each child may have had contact with during the day. This will be managed by the Grade Head in charge of each grade.
- The Press Club will remain closed until further notice. All students will be required to consume their own home-supplied snacks and no sharing of utensils or communal kitchen facilities will be allowed.
- Only one student at a time may be in a bathroom.
- No parents will be allowed beyond the carpark. Visitors must make appointments via reception, prior to entry of the building. As much as possible, meetings will take place virtually or outside the College building.

The above procedures will work well as long as every student, parent and staff member adheres to these regulations. Although every student and staff member's profiles and circumstances are unique, we have endeavoured to take decisions in the best interests of the majority. Never before in the history of our school has the need for Ubuntu been stronger. Loosely translated as "I am because we are", the spirit of Ubuntu exemplifies the coming together of a community for the good of the whole and not just the individual.

We remain acutely aware of the considerable financial strain that many of our Reddam House Umhlanga families are under and we are incredibly appreciative of the confidence and trust that our parents have placed in our management and staff at this difficult time. Furthermore, we remain committed to providing the highest quality education, while maintaining the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff.

ADAM ROGERS
HEADMASTER

GENERAL NEWS & INFORMATION

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will take place in the last week of term on Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 June from 14:30 to 16:30. Booking for these interviews will take place as per usual on Parent Lounge. Parents will be able to pre-book their slots with teachers from Monday 8 June at 13:00. Bookings will close on Wednesday 10 June at 10:00. Parents who need a reminder of their login details for the Parent Lounge portal, can contact our administrator, Ms Megan Churchill, on megan.churchill@reddam.house for assistance. As these interviews will take place virtually through the Google Meet platform, the allocated time will be 10 minutes to allow time for parents to log on and off before the next parent is due. Parents will need to sign in using their child's Reddam House email address in order to be able to access the Meet platform. Each teacher will have a specific code for their meeting that will be communicated with parents before-hand. Teachers will try as much as is possible to stick to the allotted time and we ask that parents be mindful of this as well. Should you need assistance logging onto the Meet platform, please ask your child to assist you, as they are familiar with this portal through which all teaching takes place.

Grade 12 Student Leadership

The 2020 Grade 12 student leadership have led by example this term, exuding confidence and positivity during the closure of school. What follows is a synopsis of the activities of the various leadership portfolios this term:

Culture

The Culture portfolio has had a challenging yet exciting term. We helped create the cultural classroom where we regularly upload activities and recipes to keep students creative. Members of our cultural portfolio have been involved in choir projects and other music projects. We have been planning next term's virtual activities such as Interhouse Music, House plays and the first Interhouse Cook off.

Green

The Green Dress Up Day at the end of last term was a huge success. The money raised will be used for future projects. We also were involved in the Reddam House Umhlanga Lockdown Photography competition by choosing the theme of "Remembering Nature". Currently, we are running a bird watching competition and there

will be a prize for the most birds spotted. This competition ends on Monday 8 June. Details will be communicated to the students after exams.

Outreach

In this trying time, where there are great social and mental struggles, as well as financial pressure on families, we as an outreach portfolio asked the students of Reddam House Umhlanga, to be generous and compassionate towards those suffering people. Two initiatives were sent out to the students: the 'Do More Foundation' as well as the 'Bhambayi Project', which both enable many vulnerable adults and children around South Africa to be fed.

PR/Marketing

This portfolio arranged "A Message from the Matrics of 2020" video to help the school to keep spirits up during lockdown. We are also running a Meme of the Week Competition – to continue to boost morale as well as to promote interaction among students. We assisted in the making of the "In Da House" sports video.

Spirit

During this lockdown period, the Spirit portfolio has aimed to be intentional in keeping up school spirit. Considering how far apart we have been at this time we conducted a campaign to show how much we miss each other and school: a spinoff of the #dontrushchallenge where students filmed a video of themselves transforming from their pyjamas into their school step-out uniform.

Sport

We have started an exercise challenge every Wednesday which has been successful and we did an "In Da House" challenge video.

Student Support Council

The Student Support Council (SSC) has been focusing on communications between the portfolio and the Reddam House Umhlanga student body. This portfolio has made a few segments for The Madder Show and plans to continue to do so. Another project that is in progress is the Reddam Interactive Podcast (R.I.P) which is a platform used to increase student morale.

Elevate Education Webinar for Parents

Following the success of their first webinar which was attended by more than 1,500 parents, Elevate Education is hosting a second free webinar next week. This webinar is focused on time management, developing effective study routines, and stress management.

Date: Tuesday 26 May 2020

Time: 18:00 – 19:00 (South African Standard Time)

Cost: Free

Signing up is essential, so click on this link to register: <https://www.elevatecoaching.info/parent-webinar-za-2/>

Virtual Assemblies

Our bi-weekly assemblies have taken on a different format since the lockdown. A new episode of "The Madder Show" is aired every Friday. We encourage students to share these episodes with their parents and friends. The 'show' serves to keep our Reddam House Umhlanga community connected.

Episode 7

https://drive.google.com/file/d/14n8gucshJokS9e-m9W_k9RkrcgOspnF-/view?usp=sharing

Episode 8

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g7ebXlsbuG9SyBDdb_k_C4BwfCBdGezWV/view?usp=sharing

ACADEMIC NEWS & INFORMATION

Reddam House Umhlanga Advantage Learn High Performance Mathematics Academy Update

Did you know that the Advantage Learn Maths Academy, in association with Reddam House Umhlanga, uses cumulative learning to help learners improve their mathematical skills? Cumulative learning is a scientifically proven learning method, in which students acquire and build upon knowledge effectively through the "testing effect". In the testing effect, the process of learning requires that students test themselves rather than learning theories or concepts off by heart. Research has shown that cumulative learning has proven to be one of the most effective methods where learning is involved. Students are first given a cumulative test that they are expected to complete themselves over the weekend. This allows students to test their knowledge on their own before they are

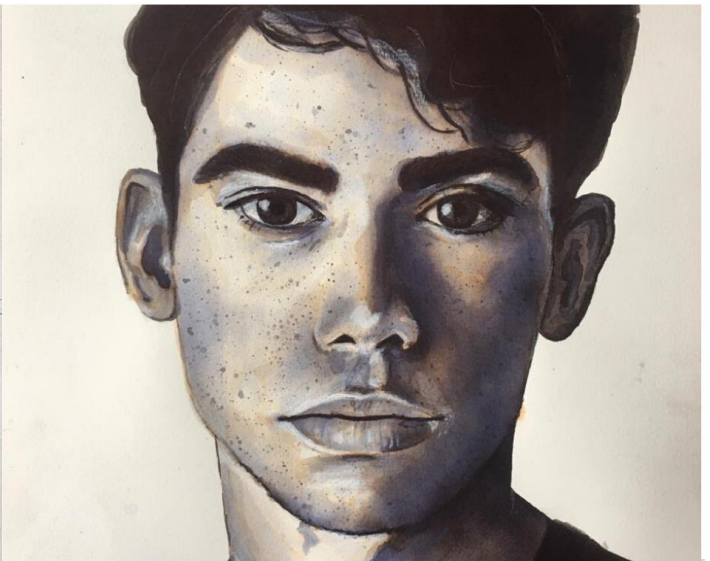
given further assistance from the Academy teachers. Students then go through an 85-minute lesson in which the teachers deal with problem areas that are gleaned from the cumulative test and they are given a revision worksheet for the test every weekend.

Visual Art

In last week's newsletter, the following coffee painting by Kristen Lea (Grade 10) was incorrectly attributed to another student. We apologise for the error.



Please find below more examples of artworks produced by our senior students whilst working from home.



Grade 12

CLOCKWISE: THORAYA BONNIN,
KELLY VAN DER VYVER AND
YUSUF ALLY





Grade 11

CLOCKWISE: MATTHEW
POLIAH, TYRA FENGER, PAIGE
SLATER



WELLNESS

Emotional Wellbeing

As we end yet another week in lockdown – it is fitting to reflect on our accomplishments. For those who ever doubted their resilience, grit and determination – this has proved your endurance and tenacity. It really is remarkable to think about how our children have adapted. The framework of mindfulness may be useful in terms of directing our thinking and emotions at a time such as this. Mindfulness really guides us to be present and focus on the 'here and now' – steering away from looking back or forward too much. This is a useful coping tool.

Physical Wellbeing & Hygiene

While some people have started going back to work, the majority of people are still working from home. Working or attending classes from home can easily result in a lack of personal hygiene. It can start from shuffling around in slippers to skipping a shower every now and then. Good personal hygiene is necessary in protecting the body from viruses and bacteria that can make us ill. Conditions that one can develop as a result of poor personal hygiene include diarrhea (gastroenteritis), colds and flu, staph infections, worm-related conditions, scabies, trachoma, tinea or athlete's foot and tooth decay. It is thus vital that we keep ourselves and our living environment clean. Below are basic personal hygienic guidelines:

- Washing the body often. If possible, everybody should have a shower or a bath every day.
- Keeping nails short and clean.
- Brushing of teeth at least once a day. It is very important to clean teeth after breakfast and immediately before going to bed.
- Washing hair with soap or shampoo at least once a week.
- Dirty clothes should be washed with laundry soap before wearing them again.

Starz at Home Competition

Many of our students have entered the "Starz at Home" competition which is a talent search and showcase for up and coming South African stars. This is a chance for entertainers (between the ages of 5 and 19) to break out of lockdown and shine online! The competition is being judged by South African's top singers, dancers, actors and directors. We are so proud of our Reddam House Umhlanga stars, and encourage our school community to please vote for them by visiting the Starz at Home facebook page. There is a prize for the most entries from a school. Students who are still wanting to enter have until 31 May.

Dance Ensemble

Members of the Dance Ensemble have been working on individual solos for two virtual festivals that have been scheduled this year: Starz At Home and Concours D'Art 2020. Watch out for a solo compilation on The Madder Show soon.

Reddam House Umhlanga Lockdown Photography Competition

This competition has grown weekly. The theme of "Family" was judged by Centaine Schaffer and the following photographs were placed:

- 1st Erin Webb (Grade 11)
- 2nd Divya Venkatesan (Grade 9)
- 3rd Mr Phil Edmonds (Staff)
- 4th Yuvaan (Grade 3) and Reya Ghela (Stage 4)

LISA BOBBERT PRESENTS

STARZ AT HOME

YOUR CHANCE TO SHINE ONLINE

A TALENT SEARCH FOR AGES 5-19

VOCALS | DANCE | MUSIC | ACTING

REGISTRATION AT [WEBTICKETS.CO.ZA](https://www.webtickets.co.za)

R50 PER SOLO ENTRY
R100 PER FAMILY ENTRY

CLOSING DATE: 31 MAY

WINNERS ANNOUNCED 12 JUNE

TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY



The most entries we have received so far, has been our "Furry Friends" week. The photographs were judged by Stephen Railton and were placed as follows:

- 1st Aidan Johnson (Grade 8)
- 2nd Alexandra Wallis (Parent)
- 3rd Rachel Duvenhage (Grade 11)
- 4th Mrs Michelle Taylor (Staff)

The next theme is "view from a window". Entries can be emailed to farla.ribbonaar@reddam.house

Music

The College Choir and College Orchestra have continued to make music in various forms throughout the lockdown period. Small ensembles, virtual orchestras and choirs, solo and duet performances have been put together both by our students and staff.

Instrumental and vocal lessons have continued through platforms like Zoom, Google Meets and Skype, with our students forging ahead, ensuring they come back to school better musicians than they left!



COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWS & INFORMATION

Compulsory Community Service Hours



Blaine Pretorius (Grade 12) hard at work



Jean Yu (Grade 8) lends a helping hand at home

The Bhambayi Project has seen a number of students completing the maximum of four hours for this specific initiative. These hours count towards the mandatory 15 hours of community service for the year as well as towards The President's Award. Photographic evidence of completed hours can be sent to james.taylor@reddam.house. Community service hours completed by our students to date will be recorded on the Term 2 reports.

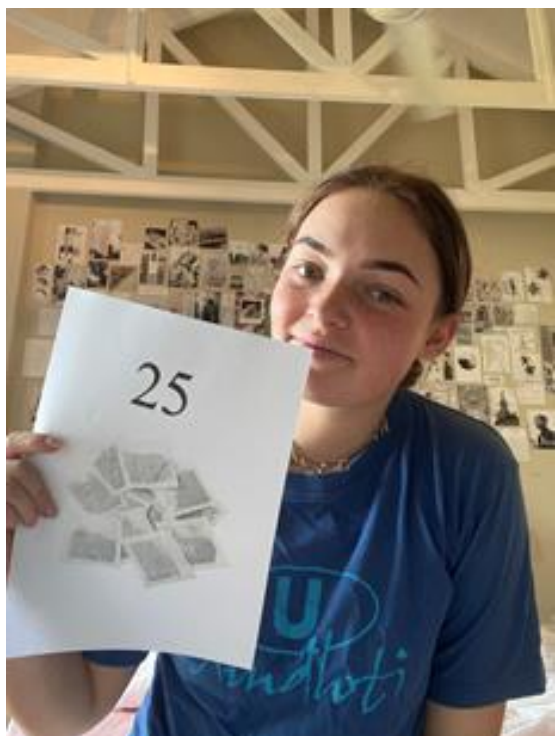
Inter House Community Service

The recently launched 'In Da House' competition will be allocating house point to the house with the most community service hours at the end of term. Currently the houses are evenly matched with uMdloti slightly ahead.

Wednesday Physical Wellness Challenge

Our physical wellness challenges on a Wednesday afternoon at 15:15 continue during the examinations. On Wednesday 27 May we will be hosting a live exercise workout with Mr Veenstra and Mr Jones. On 3 June we will be doing the "Name Challenge" workout. Details will be posted in the grade Google Classrooms.

'In Da House' Competition



Friday 15 May marked the start of the new 'In Da House' Competition involving tutor groups competing for house points from home. The first activity was throwing a tea bag into a tea cup from 3 metres away in 2 minutes. Ohlonga (412 points) was declared the winner of this first leg; second was Umdloti (312 points) and third place went to Thongathi on 303 points.

Hannah Ferreira (Grade 12) was "The Star of the Week." She managed to get 25 tea bags in a cup in the 2 minutes. Students will be engaged in further "In Da House" activities after the completion of the mid-year examinations.

On 2 June (during the cycle test period) we will be hosting the second event which will involve students having to create a paper airplane in 10 minutes and then to attempt to fly their planes the furthest distance.

The third activity, to be held on 4 June, will be a quiz during the cycle test period.

Interhouse Cross Country

Our Interhouse Cross Country event will take place on Tuesday 9 June at 7:30. This event is compulsory due to the fact that it will be

used as the Life Orientation physical activity task. The distance will be 4km and students can either run or walk it.

The procedure will be as follows:

The students must use their exercise watches to record the run. If students don't have watches they must download the Strava App and carry their phones on the run/walk.

At 07:30, students must wear their house T shirts and report to their tutors on the tutor group Google Meet. Students will then run/walk the 4km and then register again with their tutor teacher and show evidence of their recorded time and distance on their device at 8:30. If there is any medical or religious reasons why students cannot run/walk please email Director of Sport, Mr Veenstra, on ross.veenstra@reddam.house

DATES TO DIARISE

27 May	15:15 Wednesday Wellness Workout with Mr Veenstra & Mr Jones
28 May	17:00 Matric Parents' Forum Meeting (online)
29 May	Mid-year Online Examinations (Grade 8 – 12) end
9 June	07:30 Interhouse Cross Country (online and at school for Grade 12)
10 & 11 June	14:30 Parent Teacher Interviews (online)
11 & 12 June	07:30 LO Island Days (online)

PARTNERSHIPS

PRESS CLUB FROZEN MEALS

NEW TASTE FOR EVERYDAY WEEKLY
SERVES FAMILY OF 3 - 4

Butter Chicken curry	R260	Penne Bolognese	R250
Traditional Beef curry	R280	Chicken quinoa and broccoli bake	R250
Butter Bean & Potato Curry	R230	Traditional Potato Bake	R180
Beef & Veg Stew	R280	Rosemary Lamb & Veg Stew	R350
Mama's Cottage pie	R250	PC's Traditional Lamb Curry	R350
Chicken and spinach lasagne	R250	Sundried Tomato, Feta & Spinach Cannelloni	R240
Sweet chilli butternut and blue cheese lasagne	R240	Steak & Kidney Stew	R280
Spinach, feta and mozzarella lasagne	R240		

Enquire about our homemade Pies & Soups!

Just Heat To Eat



WE ARE OPEN MON - FRI FROM 9AM - 4:30PM FOR DELIVERY @ R20 PER ORDER
PLEASE ORDER BEFORE DELIVERY TIMES TO BE ON THE NEXT DELIVERY SLOT
DELIVERY TIMES: 10AM | 11:30AM | 1PM | 2:30PM | 4PM (WITHIN 5KM RADIUS)

☎ 031 561 7117 / 067 255 8963 / 082 349 2426 ✉ pressclub@telkomsa.net 📘 Press Club 1982 📷 @Pressclub1982

T's & C's Apply