

**Tamboerskloof Primary School**  
**Principal's report**  
**Lockdown 2020**  
**End of Term 3**

23 October 2020

Dearest Tambi family,

First and foremost I would like to thank the Almighty for keeping our Tambi family safe during this pandemic. We made it to the end of the term without having to close the school as a result of Covid-19 related issues. I need to once again thank ALL the staff members at Tambi: maintenance staff, aftercare staff, office staff as well as the teaching staff of the Tambi family for their continued dedication and support throughout this pandemic.

The maintenance staff for ensuring that the classrooms and bathrooms are cleaned daily and for keeping the sanitizer bottles filled and for the general cleanliness of the school. The aftercare staff for filling in during the day with additional duties. The office staff for handling all the queries from the parents and for keeping the admin up to date. The teaching staff for doing additional duties from early in the morning till late in the afternoon, often without having a break during the course of the day. I would also like to thank the parents who are assisting us in the mornings with the screening process as well as the data capturing afterwards. It often takes up to two hours in the mornings to capture the details of all the learners attending on the day. I thank you for giving of your time so selflessly. I cannot thank all of the Tambi family enough for all the effort that each and every one is putting in, without you; we would not be able to cope in these circumstances.

I waited a while to get official confirmation about the school calendar for 2021. This is now available on the school's website <https://www.tkps.co.za> as well as the D6 Communicator under the resources tab.

Social distancing and the 50% capacity per class is still in effect and will stay in effect until such time as all the lockdown regulations are removed and when the President and DBE publish this in a gazette. This means that for now, the status quo remains.

World Teachers day was celebrated on 5 October, but our teachers were busy with assessments and we only celebrated on Friday 9 October with a picnic for the teachers on St Michael's field to show thanks and appreciation for their efforts.

Late coming is still an issue and it makes it more difficult for us as we have to go back to the screening process to add the late learners. A few learners are still arriving at school without masks. Parents, it remains your responsibility to ensure that they leave the house with a mask as they will not be allowed onto the school premises without a mask on.

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School ends for the learners on 23 October. We start again for Term 4 on 02 November with the BLUE group coming to school. School will then officially end on 11 December for the learners. We have not been officially informed when we will be allowed to start the final exams, but will communicate that as soon as it becomes available. The 2021 school year for the learners will then start again on 27 January 2021. 98% of our learners have returned to school already and a few only returning to write assessments while the parents are responsible for their education at home. (Please note once again that these concessions will become obsolete when lockdown levels are removed and schooling returns to normal).

Finally we were able to complete some assessments. Parents remember that this is the first time that we were able to administer formal assessments after lockdown. This time around the assessments are more for the teachers to gauge where the learners are at, how much they absorbed during lockdown as well as how much they learned post lockdown. We are expecting some learners to drop a code, as this could be well expected as a result of COVID – 19. The teachers will know through their post analysis of assessments where the gaps are and prepare the learners for the final exams. You will be contacted by the respected teachers to talk about a plan of action with regards to your child. Your co-operation in this regard will be greatly appreciated.

#### **Budget for 2021**

A big thank you to all the parents who attended the budget meeting and approved our budget for 2021. Overall, a 5% increase was approved. The new school fees and aftercare fees for 2021 will be published on the website as well as the D6 communicator.

#### **School fees**

Thank you to all the parents who are paying their school fees and aftercare fees. Because of you, we are able to stay afloat and still deliver the quality education that we are known for.

#### **Positives of COVID -19**

Learners who would under normal circumstances just sit quietly in the bigger classes and fade away, are now participating more in class and really coming out of their shells. Some learners have really excelled under the smaller classroom and more focused approach by the teachers. Bullying has also decreased and relationships among the learners have also improved for the better.

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We shall communicate to you in the new term when exams will take place and how exactly it will be conducted.

Our Teachers have earned this well-deserved one week break to recharge their batteries in anticipation of the new term.

Let's keep Tambi safe and hopefully we can make it through another term without having to close the school due to COVID -19 infections.

Please stay vigilant and stay safe as there is talk about a second surge of Covid-19 infections emerging in the Western Cape. Your child needs to remain healthy in order to write the final exams. Be aware of your surroundings at all times and in particular when there are crowds around who are not wearing masks and not practicing social distancing.

Stay safe and healthy.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R.H. Abrahams', with a long, sweeping underline.

Mr. R.H. Abrahams  
Principal