

Parent Information Evening – Extramurals

- Over the last couple of years we have worked hard on bringing you and your children a programme of afternoon activities that ensures that your child has the opportunity to both engage in a range of different activities during the week, but also to cater to those parents who are unable to collect their children earlier in the afternoon.
- Our Afternoon programme consists of 3 sections:
 - Integrated Day (13:15 – 13:45) for Grade 0-2 only
 - Extramural Session 1 (14:00 – 15:00) for the whole school
 - Extramural Session 2 (15:00 – 16:00 including Ike’s soccer, which is later in the afternoon) for the whole school.

- **Integrated Day**

Grade 0-2 children finish school 30 minutes prior to the rest of the school. The Integrated Day programme offers those children who are not going home at 13:15 a range of activities that address different aspects of development through play and non-academic approaches.

If your child is staying for integrated day, they get to choose (along with you) 1 activity per day (Monday – Thursday). The activities chosen are a commitment for the term.

Included are 3 **Identified Learner** activities. A child may only join these activities if the staff working with them have identified a specific need in that area and the children may only sign up for that activity if you have received a letter requesting them to do so. Should you receive this request for your child, we request that you make every effort to ensure that they attend these activities.

Any child not taking part in the integrated day activities and not collected at 13:15 will be included in an activity – this is to ensure that they are safe and looked after (as there is no supervision for them to wait at the benches). Should you or their transport be delayed – please come into school and collect them.

- **Extramurals – Session 1**

These activities take place between 14:00 and 15:00. The cost of all activities up to 15:00 is included in your school fees. The first session activities are offered by the school and run by the school staff. We have

worked hard to offer a comprehensive and varied programme for your children.

The academic day ends for all children by 13:45 (Grade 0-2 Integrated Day) and the whole school waits on the benches at the front of the school, where there is supervision provided until 14:00. The children are either collected to go home, or have a chance to have something to eat and drink prior to their extramural at 14:00.

Your child will choose their activities (along with yourselves) for the term and again it is expected that their choice is a commitment for the term. There may be a situation where your child chooses something and after a couple of weeks decides that they want to change activities. We seriously discourage this. There is a lot to be said for teaching children to stick to the commitments they have made. The commitment is only for 1 term, should they then want to change activity in the next term – they are very welcome.

The first session of extramurals includes **Waiting Class**. We have made slight changes to how Waiting Class will run this year. Waiting Class is there to provide supervision for those children who are not staying for extramurals, but have not been collected by 14:00 – due to traffic or unforeseen delays. When the children are collected for their extramurals at 14:00, any child left on the bench will be included in Waiting Class. Children who attend a 2nd session activity may choose to sign up for Waiting Class, giving them the opportunity to complete their homework before their 15:00 activity. **No child may sign up for Waiting Class (1st session) and Homework Class (2nd session) on the same day.** Any child that is repeatedly attending Waiting Class (because they have not been collected by 14:00) for the majority of a session will be asked to sign up for an extramural.

All children attending Waiting Class will be expected to work on their homework – even if they are waiting to be collected.

- **Extramurals – Session 2**

These activities take place between 15:00 and 16:00 (with the exception of Ike's Soccer which takes place from 16:15 – 17:15 and Young Engineers, which finishes after 16:00). These activities are offered privately and all incur an additional cost. This is an arrangement between yourselves and the organisation offering the activity – you will need to complete their registration forms and commit to their terms and

conditions. **It is however, very important to sign on our extramural form that your child is attending this activity – this is so that we know who is on the school premises and for what reason.**

Although the different homework classes are offered by staff members, this is done in their private capacity and do incur an additional cost.

Any changes to your child's extramural programme needs to be made in writing to me. I will then co-ordinate with the relevant staff members to inform them of these changes - you will find my email address is on the extramural notice, or please send a note to school in your child's diary.

- **Completing the form**

The form can look a little daunting when you first see it, but once you understand the process hopefully it will make it a little easier –

The top of the form needs to be completed and signed. This is giving permission for your child to stay on the school premises and take part in our extramural programme.

Please read all the information on the form – much of which I have explained to you.

Each day of the week is divided into the 3 sessions – integrated day, session 1 and session 2 activities.

The first section is only for Grade 0-2 – once you and your child have selected an activity for each day, please initial next to the relevant activity.

For session 1 and session 2, please check which grades an activity is being offered to, there could be some changes from last year and there are some new activities. Again, once you have chosen the activity, please initial next to it.

Even though session 2 activities are private activities and you have to fill in a registration form for the organisation, we require you to please initial next to the activity or homework class they will attend – as this gives us permission to include your child in that activity.

On the last page, there is a block listing the relevant sports uniforms for each activity. If an activity is not mentioned the children wear their school uniforms. Please complete and sign this box. We will then detach this section and include it in our child's homework diary on page 6.

Please take note of how we require the form to be completed – as any form not completed correctly will be sent back home for corrections.

Please initial next to an activity and NOT tick. We need your initial to show you have given permission for your child to attend that activity.

Attendance

Your child is expected to attend the activities they have selected. Should your child not be able to attend on a day, they are expected to excuse themselves from the teacher that runs the activity. For the younger children, please put a note in their diary and their class teacher will assist them in making their excuses.

A child who attends their activities regularly earns points for their team (Hawks, Eagles or Kestrels). The more extramurals they attend, the more points they earn.

Every child in the school is expected to attend at least one extramural a week, but may attend as many as they like. Integrated day activities do not fulfil this requirement.

We are aware that some children do attend activities outside of school. Extramurals are part of any school programme. They allow for your child to be involved in school away from the academic programme. It is important, despite their outside activities that they take part in school-based activities too. This helps foster a sense of belonging at PPS, as well as building team spirit.

Please be aware that it is not ideal, for any primary school aged child to only sit down to do homework at 5pm (or later) due to their extramural activities. They are tired and their homework will take them longer to do. No child's concentration is optimal at that stage of the day.