

12 April 2010

Dear Grade Ten Parents

Academic Matters

Welcome back to the new term. We trust that even though the holiday was shorter than we are used to, that you have come back refreshed and ready to embrace Term Two. Enclosed please find a copy of the first Grade Ten report which reflects the marks from both class tests and assessment tasks carried out in the First Term. The Grade Tens have gleaned from the wide SAHETI experience in the academic, sporting and cultural arena.

We draw your attention to a number of matters pertaining to academics which will assist you understand better the way in which we assess and monitor your son's/daughter's progress throughout the year. Please peruse the contents carefully and contact either myself or Mrs Delpont, the Grade Controller, should you have any questions in this regard.

✓ **Promotion Requirements:**

The legislated promotion requirements at FET level (Grade 10 – 12 are divided into 4 specific promotion qualifications:

Promotion Qualification	Minimum Requirements	Further Study after Matric
NSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A minimum of 40% for English• A minimum of 40% in any two additional subjects(other than Maths Paper 3; Hellenic Studies, AP)• A minimum of 30% in any 3 subjects(other than Maths Paper 3, Hellenic Studies, AP)	This is a school leaving certificate. A NSC promotion will not qualify for any further study at a college or university.
Higher Certificate Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A minimum of 40% for English• A minimum of 40% in any two additional subjects(other than	This will qualify to apply at colleges which do not offer Diploma or Degree studies.

	Maths Paper 3; Hellenic Studies, AP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 30% in either Afrikaans or isiZulu • A minimum of 30% in any 2 subjects (other than Maths Paper 3, Hellenic Studies, AP) 	
Diploma Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 40% in English • A minimum of 30% in Afrikaans/isiZulu • A minimum of 40% in any 3 other subjects (other than Hellenic Studies, Maths Paper 3, AP) • A minimum of 30% in any 2 subjects (other than Hellenic Studies, Maths Paper 3, AP) 	This qualification will entail for the candidate to apply for any DIPLOMA study. It does not qualify for any University Degree study course.
Degree Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 40% in English • A minimum of 30% in Afrikaans/isiZulu • A minimum of 50% in any 4 designated subjects (This excludes LO, CAT, Hellenic Studies, Maths Paper 3 and AP) • A minimum of 30% in any two additional subjects (other than Hellenic Studies, Maths Paper 3 and AP) 	This qualification will entail the candidate to apply for a degree course at a university. Individual course requirements need to be met. Specific institution and programme needs may have specific language requirements or require appropriate combinations of specific subjects and levels of achievement.

It is recommended that pupils should aim to obtain a Degree Pass. SAHETI's Career Day (20 April 17h00 – 10h30) is a wonderful opportunity to discuss different career options. We encourage all our Senior pupils to attend this informative day so that they can gain information from diverse career experts and universities.

✓ **Term Weighting:**

The final Promotion mark at year end will be calculated from marks throughout the year.

Term One	5% of the final promotion mark	Class Tests and Task Assessment (Jan – March)
Term Two	10% of the final promotion mark	Class Tests, and Task Assessments (April – June) ending with Winter Summative Assessment (August)
Term Three	10% of the final promotion	Task Assessments (September)

	mark	– October)
Term Three	75%	End of Year Summative Assessment (November)

No condonation may be granted at year end.

End of year Prize Giving will be based on the Promotion Mark. Details of the criteria are on our website.

✓ **Parents' Meetings:**

As part of our process of open communication, our Parents' Meetings have been scheduled soon after the distribution of the reports. A reminder that the meeting will take place on MONDAY 19 April at 14h30 – 17h00 in the Bylos Music Centre. We encourage our Grade Tens to attend these meetings with the parents so that information necessary for academic well-being may be discussed in each subject. It also offers our pupils an opportunity to discuss any support that they require as they begin to think about Subject Choices for Grade Ten.

✓ **Task Schedule:**

We have redesigned the Task Schedule to ensure that there is greater clarity in the diverse tasks set per subject. We would welcome feedback on areas that you feel have made the task schedule easier to follow. Please be aware of our policy that should a test be scheduled for a day and your son/daughter is absent a doctor's note (with reasonable explanation) must be forwarded to the Grade Controller so that arrangements may be made for the test to be written. Failure to do so, will unfortunately result in a zero.

✓ **Leave of Absence:**

Leave of Absence during school terms will only be granted under the conditions as outlined in our policy: Special Leave of Absence. The policy is available on our website. Extended vacations do not qualify for Special Leave of Absence.

We look forward to a continued year of commitment and hard work. As the Grade Tens pace themselves towards their first winter Assessments, we encourage them to plan in advance.

A reminder also that reading remains the core essential skill in all learning and that we expect all our pupils to read for a minimum of thirty minutes a day to keep the gremlins at bay. Have wonderful productive term.

Sincerely

Mrs Daniela Pitt
Director: Academics