



CAMPS BAY HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter #40_2017

10 November 2017

Dear Parents

The whole school is now writing exams, right from Grade 8 to 12. Examinations are an important part of the teaching and learning cycle. It is the time when we stop teaching in order to 'measure' how much learning has taken place. In years gone by, these exams were 'high stakes', in that everything depended on them. However, now you have a year mark included in your final mark. This is called a CASS mark (Cumulative Assessment), and is a far fairer way of assessing a child's performance over a year. The exams are not designed to punish a child or 'catch them out' with obscure questions or work not covered in class. They are carefully designed to see what exactly your child knows.

Each exam paper needs to have a range of questions that are at different levels of difficulty. Having a range of questions from easy to difficult allows the paper to differentiate between a pupil who knows half the work, and a pupil who has mastered all the work.

STUDYING FOR THE EXAMS.

Preparing for the exams is often a challenging time for our pupils as they struggle with procrastination. One pupil told me that they had joined a support group for procrastinators, in January this year, but they have not managed to meet yet... You as a parent can flag WABing (Work avoidance behaviour) when you see it and help your child stick to their study timetable.

Some of the WABing activities that are very popular at exam time are:

- Re-organising your room
- Re-packing your cupboard
- A new interest in helping with household chores
- Frequent visits to the kitchen for a 'snack'
- Long breaks watching series
- A new vigour when it comes to physical activity, so runs, weights etc. seem to be taking up study time.
- Resting during the day is also a well know 'WABing activity'.

I am sure you are able to add to this list. You can mention this at home and help your child keep their study focus. Very few pupils come out of an exam complaining that they spent way too much time learning for it. In fact the contrary is true, most feel that they actually should have put in more time.

You can also help in keeping a good family schedule of meal times etc. and also making sure there is the space available to work and the level of 'quietness' required to concentrate.

Thanks for all your help so far.

Yours sincerely

David De Korte
PRINCIPAL

NEPAL 2018

There will be a tour to Nepal in **April 2018**. Learners will be involved in service projects as well as being in the splendour of the Himalayan Mountain Range. If you are interested, please contact **Mrs Nikki Cross** via e-mail on ncross@campsbayhigh.co.za. Last applications will be taken this week.

CAMPS BAY UNITED CHURCH

Please join us in praying for the children, teachers and families of the Camps Bay Schools at Christian Life Camps Bay Church (Camps Bay United, behind the CB Prep School) every **Monday morning** between **07h30** and **08h30 a.m.**