

MANAGING DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER



1 August 2022

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Nelson Mandela said: "There can be no greater gift than that of giving one's time and energy to helping others without expecting anything in return."

And so another month has passed where we had the opportunity to celebrate the incredible life of Nelson Mandela – Our Madiba. The spirit of the 67 Minute Challenge has taken the world by storm and it has become a significant date on our calendars.

The concept of service in schools is becoming the norm in many educational institutions. For me, this concept highlights two very important aspects, namely (1) the role of schools in our society and communities and (2) the importance of a balanced view of what education entails.

Firstly, schools are microcosms of our societies and communities. We cannot expect our schools to function in isolation from their environments. It is important that our schools are part of the community and that they contribute to the wellbeing and development of the communities in which they operate.

Secondly, it is our responsibility as schools to educate our learners, not only to acquire academic and technical skills, but also to develop them as human beings that are empathic, understanding and caring young adults that are not blind to the needs of the community. This is something that needs to be taught, encouraged, enhanced and promoted at every opportunity. To be kind must never “go out of fashion”. It must be a way of life.

We are proud to say that over the last month our staff and learners have given their time to various charities in their immediate communities. To truly give of oneself, and to actually give of your time and energy to make a difference, can be the most significant way to serve.

As schools we need to create these opportunities for our learners. We must allow our students opportunities to give of themselves, to find their passions and to realise that they, in their own unique ways, can make a positive difference.

Hopefully, for some of us, Nelson Mandela Month will have planted a seed to encourage us all to do good in the world for much more than just 67 minutes once a year!

It is our vision as a school to be the school of choice in the community that we serve.

Yours sincerely, Dr B Fourie

MANAGING DIRECTOR ROYAL SCHOOLS

