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Dear Parents/Guardians

We are, once again, thankful to reach the end of another successful year at the Lady Grey Arts Academy. Thank you very much for your involvement in the school's activities during the past year.

This newsletter contains important information for the 2017 academic year.

RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS: 2017

The Academy will re-open for learners on Wednesday, 11 January 2017 at 07:30.

Academic classes will commence immediately. **Please ensure that your child is back on this day!** Every year we experience a problem with learners who return long after the opening of school. This should be prevented at all cost.

The Admin- and Financial Offices will remain open until 15 December 2016, (08:00 to 13:00).

Parents who wish to pay school fees after **24 December** are welcome to make a direct deposit:

BANK:	STANDARD BANK
BRANCH:	LADY GREY
ACCOUNT NUMBER:	280 630 379
BRANCH CODE:	050820
REFERENCE:	SURNAME OF CHILD, INITIAL & GRADE

The office will re-open on 5 January 2017 (8:00 to 13:00).

TOTS ACADEMY TOILETS

The finishing touches to the new toilet facilities at the Tots Academy are being done at present and the teachers and students are looking forward to having their own facilities next year.

We are very grateful for the enormous contribution of Boet and Elize Robberts towards the building of new toilets. It is heart warming to know that we have so much support from parents and grandparents. Thank you very much!

A big thank you also goes to the parents who supported the raffle ticket fundraiser, which also contributed to the building of the Tots' toilets!

PASSION PLAY 2017

The 2017 Lady Grey Passion Play will take place from 14 - 16 April 2017.

Bookings for this event have opened already and parents who would like to attend the Passion Play next year should please book their seats well in advance to prevent disappointment.

Bookings can be made at www.computicket.co.za or at any Computicket outlet or by visiting the Money Market counter at any Shoprite/Checkers store.

SCHOOL TERMS 2017

The preparations for the 2017 Lady Grey Passion Play will start early in January. In order to accommodate this important event, some changes to the dates of the first and second terms will be required.

Parents are requested to take note of these changes and to make the necessary adjustments in their plans for 2017. Learners will not be allowed to be absent from school because their parents have not made the necessary adjustments in planning for holidays etc.

School Calendar for 2017 (Lady Grey Arts Academy):

11 January - 16 April: Term 1 (* Lady Grey Arts Academy only)

17 April - 7 May: Easter Holiday (* Lady Grey Arts Academy only)

8 May - 30 June: Term 2 (* Lady Grey Arts Academy only)

1 July - 23 July: Winter Holiday

24 July - 29 Sep: Term 3

30 Sep - 8 Oct: September Holiday

9 Oct - 6 Dec: Term 4

COMMUNICATION

The SMS messaging service has improved the communication with parents considerably. Parents who do not receive the SMS messages should contact the school to ensure that we have the correct phone number where SMS messages can be sent to. We appeal to parents to assist us in this matter.

Parents are also encouraged to use e-mails to communicate with the school. This is a very effective and economical way of communicating. Please use the following e-mail addresses:

School: admin@lgaa.co.za

Transport: transport@lgaa.co.za

Hostel: excelsior@lgaa.co.za

Uniform: uniform@lgaa.co.za

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

EXTERNAL MUSIC EXAMS

Congratulations to the following students on achieving excellent results during the UNISA and Trinity Music Examinations this year:

Name	Instrument	Exam Body	Exam Grade	Results
Lindsey Cock	Vocal	Trinity	5	60%
Tracy Cock	Violin	Trinity	1	73%
Tracy Cock	Piano	Trinity	2	60%
Dana Mosca	Violin	Trinity	1	79%
Dana Mosca	Piano	Trinity	2	82%
Gibson Guo	Piano	Trinity	Initial	75%
Alex Chen	Piano	Trinity	1	72%
Thabelang Motemekoane	Piano	Trinity	1	60%
Zikhona Sithole	Clarinet	Trinity	1	61%
Aviwe Buckland	Clarinet	Trinity	1	60%
Siphosovuyo Mtseli	Flute	Trinity	2	60%
Ryan Thompson	Piano	Unisa	5	72%

All music students are welcome to enter for the Unisa or Trinity Music Examinations (Practical and/or Theoretical). We encourage students to work very hard and diligently if they would like to enter for these exams.

Parents must please take note that the fees for these exams are not included in the school fees and have to be paid additionally. The amount will vary between R300 and R1000, depending on the grade the candidate is entered for. These external exams are recognised worldwide and can be beneficial for tertiary studies.

Closing dates for entries range between April and August every year. Final dates for entries and payment of fees will be announced at the beginning of 2017.

SUBJECT MUSIC STUDIES GRADE 10-12

1. All Subject Music learners in Gr. 10 will be required to do a practical audition at the beginning of 2017.
2. Since the beginning of 2015 participation in the choir and productions is **COMPULSORY** for ALL Subject Music students, as well as for learners who do the music component of Creative Arts in Gr. 7-9. **These activities will form part of the practical mark.**

STATIONERY FOR SUBJECT MUSIC STUDIES GRADE 10-12

The following stationery and files are a necessity for music:

- Pencils
- Eraser
- Black / Blue pen
- 20 page Flip File
- A4 ring binder file (25mm)

Please ensure that your child has a pencil and eraser for **every** music period.

The music staff of Lady Grey Arts Academy (Mrs M. Pitout, Miss M. Hoogendoorn, Mrs K. Voster and Mr L. Khumalo) would like to wish all our music students and their families a blessed Christmas and a prosperous new year.

VISUAL ARTS AND DESIGN FEES FOR GRADES 10, 11 AND 12:

All students choosing Visual Art and/or Design as subjects in the FET phase have to pay a fee of R400 per subject. These funds are exclusively used to provide the students with the necessary equipment needed to take these subjects, including individual art material and material required for examination purposes.

Students doing both Visual Art and Design only pay R600 (R300 per subject).

The full amount of R400 is payable by the end of the second term each year. To assist parents, payment can be made according to the following schedule:

A first payment of R200 is due upon registration in January. (R300 if a student chooses both subjects). A student will only be allowed to enter a Visual Art or Design class once this payment has been made.

A second payment of R200 (R300 for students doing both subjects) can be paid at any time during the period January to June, either as a whole or in instalments.

IF THE REQUIRED FEE HAS NOT BEEN PAID IN FULL BY THE END OF JUNE, A STUDENT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO CARRY ON WITH THAT SUBJECT IN TERM 3 AND WILL BE ADVISED TO CHANGE SUBJECTS.

EXCELSIOR HOSTEL

All boarders for 2017 must please report to the Excelsior hostel before 20:00 on Tuesday, 10 January 2017.

The office at school will be open from 08:00 until 19:00 on that day to enable parents to pay hostel fees. Parents are reminded that electronic payment facilities are available. However, we encourage parents to deposit the hostel fees directly into the bank account of the hostel.

Banking details:

Standard Bank, Lady Grey; Branch code: 050-820; Acc #: 28063 6792

(PLEASE use the correct account number:).

NO CASH PAYMENTS CAN BE ACCEPTED AT THE HOSTEL.

In spite of soaring prices during the past few months, we have managed to keep the increase in hostel fees to a minimum. The hostel fees for 2017 will be R5800 per term for full-time boarders and R4900 per term for weekly boarders. This represents an increase of LESS THAN R135 per month.

Hostel fees (R5800 per term) are payable in advance every term.

Parents who prefer to pay the fees monthly, will pay **R2200 per month for 11 months** (January to November). This is payable **IN ADVANCE** every month. It means that the fee for January has to be paid before the student enters the hostel in January. After that the fee for every month (February to November) has to be paid before the 1st day of the month (February fee before 1 February, March fee before 1 March, etc.).

NO STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED INTO THE HOSTEL IF THERE ARE ANY OUTSTANDING FEES FOR 2016 OR IF THE FEES FOR THE FIRST TERM (OR JANUARY) HAVE NOT BEEN PAID IN FULL.

We appeal to parents to adhere to this arrangement, especially those who do not accompany their children on the first day. Do not create a situation where your child has to be sent away from the hostel due to unpaid fees.

Boarders must please provide the following:

- Own bedding
- Own towels
- Own toiletries
- Own toilet paper
- Padlock for locker

A VERY important meeting for hostel parents is scheduled for 14:00 on Tuesday, 10 January 2017 at the Excelsior Hostel. All hostel parents are urgently requested to attend this meeting. Matters to be discussed include the budget of the hostel, as well as the policy and rules of the hostel. At the meeting each parent will receive a copy of the Code of Conduct of Excelsior Hostel. Discipline at Excelsior hostel is non-negotiable and students are required to obey these rules.

REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

GR. 1 - 3

All stationery for the whole year will be provided by the school in January 2017. This is included in the school fee for the year. All stationery will remain at the school at all times. All articles must be clearly marked with the learner's name.

GR. 4 - 9 (from Day One)

Homework diary; Pencil-case; HB pencil; Eraser; Colour Crayons; Pencil sharpener; Ruler; Pritt Glue stick; Blunt-nose scissors; Blue pen; 20 page Flip-File; A4 Exam Pad; Simple calculator with square root and percentage functions; Geometry set (Grade 6); English Dictionary; a proper navy blue or black school bag - **NO satchels will be tolerated.**

GR. 10 - 12 (from Day One)

Homework diary; Pencil-case; HB pencil; Eraser; Colour Crayons; Pencil sharpener; Ruler; Pritt Glue stick; Blunt-nose scissors; Blue pen; 20 page Flip-File; A4 Exam Pad; Scientific Calculator (SHARP EL-531 WH); Geometry set; English Dictionary; a proper navy blue or black school bag - **NO satchels will be tolerated.**

Items required per subject

- Computer Applications Technology: Personal Lever-Arch File (NOT Flip File)
 - Dramatic Arts: Personal Lever-Arch File; Black track-suit pants/tights + T-Shirt
 - Dance Studies: Personal Lever-Arch File; Flip File (20 pockets)
 - Physical Science; Accounting; Business Studies: Scientific Calculator
 - FET - Math, Math Lit: Scientific Calculator
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FET SUBJECT CHOICE

Parents are reminded about the clause in the school's Admission Policy which determines that it is compulsory for learners in the FET phase to choose a minimum of TWO art subjects. This applies to all FET students.

This was included in an effort to protect the character of the Lady Grey Arts Academy and to ensure that it excels as a school specialising in the visual- and performing arts.

It is very important that parents of learners in ALL JUNIOR GRADES should take note of this. If there are learners in grade 8 or lower who prefer to follow a more academic stream in the FET phase, they should apply to other schools well in advance to prevent disappointment.

Kind Regards,

HN Bekker
Headmaster

**We wish all our Learners and
Parents a Blessed Festive
Season and a Prosperous 2017**

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2017

DATE	ACTIVITY
10-Jan	Hostel opens 08:00 Hostel Parents' Meeting 14:00
11-Jan	Schools Re-open for learners 07:30
23-Jan	Foundation Phase Parents' Evening
28-Jan	Circuit Athletics Meeting
3-Feb	Senqu Athletics Meeting (Primary)
4-Feb	Senqu Athletics Meeting (Secondary)
14-Feb	V-Ball (Grade 8 - 12): 18:00 - 21:00 Valentine Sokkie (Gr 1 - 7) 18:00 - 21:00
18-Feb	Joe Gqabi Athletics Meeting (Primary) <i>Venue?</i>
25-Feb	Joe Gqabi Athletics Meeting (Secondary) <i>Jamestown?</i>
3 - 5 Mar	HOSTEL OUT-WEEKEND
3 - 4 Mar	Eastern Cape Athletics Meeting (Primary) <i>Cradock</i>
10 - 11 Mar	Eastern Cape Athletics Meeting (Secondary) <i>Port Elizabeth</i>
16 - 18 Mar	National Athletics Meeting (Primary) <i>Potchefstroom</i>
22 - 25 Mar	National Athletics Meeting (Secondary) <i>Durban</i>
7-Apr	<i>Academic Classes End</i>
11 - 13 Apr	PASSION PLAY DRESS REHEARSAL
14-Apr	GOOD FRIDAY
14 - 16 Apr	PASSION PLAY 2017
16-Apr	LGAA Closes
8-May	LGAA Re-Opens at 07:30