



# LADY GREY

KUNSTE-AKADEMIE • ARTS ACADEMY

*Where learning is an Art*

## Newsletter

15 December 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

At the beginning of 2020 many of us took note of a strange new virus in China. It was far from us and we were not too concerned about it... but near the end of February, Covid 19 suddenly became a reality in our own country.

This reality has made 2020 a strange and difficult year. The school year we had in mind crumbled before our eyes. We had to learn how to deal with a new reality and started walking on an uncharted road. All of a sudden we were all confronted with almost superhuman demands.

What we considered to be normal or ordinary has disappeared, and the so-called “new normal” has demanded new and different attitudes, actions, and attitudes.

I would like to thank all our parents for their support and understanding during this time. We understand that you were inconvenienced by many of the decisions taken, but these decisions were taken in the best interest of our whole school community and I really appreciate parents’ co-operation.

I would also like to convey a message of appreciation, recognition and congratulations to our educators for the successes that have been achieved. They fearlessly faced the challenges of 2020 and have masterfully faced the new realities.

This newsletter reports about some activities of 2020 and contains important information for 2021. However, listening to President Ramaphosa’s address this evening, I realised that there are few, if any, certainties about the start of the 2021 school year. Please be aware of the fact that the information contained in the letter can change on short notice.

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### **OFFICE HOURS DURING HOLIDAY**

**The Financial Office will remain open until 18 December 2020 from 08:00 to 14:00.**

Parents who wish to pay school fees after **18 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 20 January 2021.**

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### **RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS: 2021**

The re-opening of school in 2021 will be more complicated than usual. In line with current COVID-19 regulations, we will continue with rotation of grades during Term 1 of 2021. However, the model for the rotation has been adjusted to accommodate learners staying in the hostel:

- (1) Grade 12 will attend school every day.
- (2) Grade 8 - 11 will rotate daily, with 2 of these grades attending school on a specific day. (If Grade 8 and 10 attend school on Monday, they will stay at home on Tuesday, when Grade 9 and 11 will attend.
- (3) Grade R to 7 will be divided into 2 groups which will rotate daily.

Grade 8 - 12 will be divided into 3 smaller groups to allow for social distancing in the classrooms. Learners will remain in the same class as far as possible during the day to limit their exposure to possible infection.

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Where Learning is an Art

Schools will officially re-open for learners on **WEDNESDAY, 27 JANUARY 2021**. This re-opening will take place according to the following schedule:

- 26 January: The hostel re-opens for **ALL boarders**.
- 27 January: School re-opens for learners in **Group A** (Grade R to 7) and **Grade 9, 11 and 12**.
- 28 January: School re-opens for learners in **Group B** (Grade R to 7) and **Grade 8 and 10**.

Parents of learners in Grades R to 7 will be informed about the names of learners in Group A and Group B via SMS as soon as the class lists have been finalised.

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 costs

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### **SCHOOL TERMS 2021**

The following school calendar was published for 2021. We have seen this year how quickly the school calendar can change! Parents will be informed of any changes to the calendar if necessary.

<b>27 January - 31 March:</b>	<b>Term 1</b>
<i>1 April - 12 April:</i>	<i>Easter Holiday</i>
<b>13 April - 25 June:</b>	<b>Term 2</b>
<i>26 June - 12 July:</i>	<i>Winter Holiday</i>
<b>13 July - 23 September:</b>	<b>Term 3</b>
<i>24 September - 4 October:</i>	<i>September Holiday</i>
<b>5 October - 8 December:</b>	<b>Term 4</b>

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### **PASSION PLAY 2021**

COVID-19 regulations permitting, the 2021 Lady Grey Passion Play will take place from 2 to 4 April 2021. Bookings for this event will open soon and parents who would like to attend the 2021 Passion Play should please book their seats well in advance to prevent disappointment.

Bookings can be made at [www.webtickets.co.za](http://www.webtickets.co.za) or any *Pick 'n Pay* store nationwide.

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### **COMMUNICATION**

Parents are 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](mailto:admin@lgaa.co.za)

Transport: [transport@lgaa.co.za](mailto:transport@lgaa.co.za)

Hostel: [excelsior@lgaa.co.za](mailto:excelsior@lgaa.co.za)

Uniform: [uniform@lgaa.co.za](mailto:uniform@lgaa.co.za)

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### **FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

Despite a challenging year, 30 music students were enrolled for the Grade 1 to 4 UNISA Theory examinations and we are proud to announce the following results:

- 1 x Pass with Distinction
- 6 x Pass with Merit
- 13 x Pass

Congratulations to all the learners on their excellent results.

The UNISA Theory examination is compulsory for all music students in grades 7 to 9 and more students will be enrolled in 2021. The fees for the examinations are not included in the school fees and have to be paid additionally. Please budget for an amount between R300 and R1000, depending on the grade. These exams are recognised worldwide and can be beneficial for

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tertiary studies. Music teachers will contact parents to make the necessary arrangements regarding dates and the payment of the examination fees.

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### **EXCELSIOR HOSTEL**

The Excelsior hostel will open at 12:00 on **Tuesday, 26 January 2021**. All boarders for 2021 are expected to report to the hostel before 18:00 on that day. Please note that the first meal at the hostel will be served on Monday morning. Boarders should please bring their own supper for Tuesday evening.

Although hostel fees can be paid upon arrival (electronic payment facilities are available), we encourage parents to deposit the hostel fees directly into the bank account of the hostel.

**Banking details:** (PLEASE use the correct account number).

**Standard Bank; Lady Grey; Branch Code: 050-820; Acc #: 28063 6792**

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 2021 will be **R28 600 for the year**. This amount can be paid in **11 equal instalments of R2600 per month** (February to December).

If parents choose to pay monthly, the fee is payable **IN ADVANCE** every month. **THE PAYMENT FOR FEBRUARY HAS TO BE PAID BEFORE THE STUDENT ENTERS THE HOSTEL ON 26 JANUARY**. The fee for the remaining months (March to December) has to be paid **BEFORE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF EVERY MONTH (March fee before 1 March, April fee before 1 April, etc.)**.

The annual hostel fee amounts to R28 600 per year. Parents who choose to pay the full amount for the year before 28 February 2021 will receive a 5% discount.

### **NO STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED INTO THE HOSTEL IF THERE ARE ANY OUTSTANDING FEES FOR 2020 OR IF THE FEES FOR FEBRUARY 2021 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, 26 January 2021 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. Discipline at Excelsior Hostel is non-negotiable and students are required to obey these rules.

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### **REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW ACADEMIC YEAR**

#### **GR. 1 - 3**

All stationery for the whole year will be provided by the school. 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)**

Most of the stationery for the year will be provided by the school. Learners should provide their own pencil-case, Pritt glue stick, simple calculator with square root and percentage functions and English Dictionary. Please ensure that your child has a proper school bag - **NO satchels will be allowed**.

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## GR. 10 - 12 (from Day One)

Most of the stationery for the year will be provided by the school. Learners should provide their own pencil-case, Pritt glue stick, A4 exam pad; scientific calculator (SHARP EL-531 WH) and English Dictionary. Please ensure that your child has a proper school bag - **NO satchels will be allowed.**

### 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 Sciences; Accounting; Business Studies: Scientific Calculator
  - FET - Math, Math Lit: Scientific Calculator
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### **VISUAL ARTS AND DESIGN FEES FOR GRADES 10, 11 AND 12**

All students choosing Visual Arts and/or Design as subjects in the FET phase have to pay a fee of R500 per subject, which is exclusively used to provide the students with the necessary equipment to take these subjects, including individual art material and material required for examination purposes.

Students doing both Visual Arts and Design only pay R800 (R400 per subject).

The full amount is payable by the end of February.

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

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### **Trinity Examination**

The 2020 Trinity College of London examinations could not take place due to travel restrictions and other complications caused by COVID-19. However, we received notice that the 2021 Trinity examination will indeed go ahead and that it will be done virtually.

All senior dramatic arts learners are encouraged to participate if possible. We trust you will be able to afford your child this opportunity.

The Trinity Certificate is an internationally recognised qualification which opens doors for students to further their studies in the performing arts. This qualification could serve as a stepping stone towards obtaining a further international qualification.

Information regarding the dates and fee structure will be communicated to parents as soon as it is available.

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At the beginning of the year none of us could have predicted what 2020 would look like... and 2021 will probably also have a few surprises. But what we do know is that we have handled 2020 successfully and that we will face 2021 with the same focus. My prayer for you all is that our Heavenly Father will protect and preserve each one, and that He will be the signpost in 2021 who will make our roads safe and level.

I would like to wish all our learners, parents and staff members a Blessed Festive Season and a Prosperous 2021.

Kind Regards,

*Headmaster*

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