



ST. DOMINIC'S COLLEGE

WELKOM

Education with a leading edge

November 2024

Dear Parents

ARRANGEMENTS 2025: EXISTING BOARDER PUPILS RETURNING

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our existing Boarder pupils and parents back to the St Dominic's College family. We trust that 2025 will continue to bring new developments in the Boarding House, for the benefit of our children.

This letter serves to inform you of the arrangements for the first term and we trust you will find it informative and useful. Please ensure you read it carefully as it contains vital instructions that should not be missed. We have also included additional information with regard to school matters.

BOARDING STAFF

Ms Nicole Stevens is our Head of the Boarding House. Ms Nikita Nunes is the Deputy Head of the Boarding House and Ms Ansua Du Plessis is our Boarding House Matron. They form part of the St Agnes Boarding House staff.

Ms Nicole Stevens is the first and foremost contact with regard to the welfare of your child. Mrs Stevens resides at the Boarding House, so is available to your child before and after school. Please do not hesitate to contact her with any queries regarding your child in the year ahead. Email messages will be answered as swiftly as possible (nstevens@dominic.co.za). Alternatively, her cell phone number is 065 885 7766. If your call is not answered immediately, please leave a message for her to get back to you. You are also welcome to contact Ms Nunes via email (nnunes@dominic.co.za) or telephonically on 071 350 0803.

Ms Ansua Du Plessis is available on email (aduplessis@dominic.co.za) or cell number 083 279 9950 from 07h00 until 16h00.

TEXTBOOKS

School begins on Thursday, 9 January 2025. Please ensure that you have purchased your child's textbooks in time for start of term. Attached is a list of textbook requirements for 2025. These textbooks will be available through the following suppliers:

Protea Books	Bloemfontein	Tel: 051 444 1212
Van Schalk Books	Welkom Pick 'n Pay Centre	Tel: 087 106 4332
Online from Takealot (www.takealot.co.za)		
Online from Loot (www.loot.co.za)		
Subject Matter Books.com		

When purchasing online, please ensure that the correct ISBN number is used as per the textbook lists. These online providers are available for you to purchase the necessary textbooks at the most affordable prices, at your own convenience. In the Boarding house, your child will be given the opportunity to cover his/her own books in the first week of school, if they are not able to do so during the holidays, but then parents are requested to send enough covering paper, DC-fix/cellophane and cello tape, as well as labels. Book purchases are parents' responsibility, and the College will not be able to facilitate this. Please ensure this is completed before you arrive, as we cannot be held responsible for purchasing and collecting

Executive Head:

Deena Naidoo

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High School: Tel: 057 352 3905

Fax: 057 353 4631

Email: headmaster@dominic.co.za, Website: www.dominic.co.za



STATIONERY

Primary School: If your child is entering primary school, please follow the instructions on the attached documentation regarding stationery and workbooks and instructions for covering books.

High School parents, please ensure that you do not purchase everything on the list – check which subjects are applicable to your child and make your purchases accordingly. In the high school, we do not specify writing materials, however, your child should have a basic pencil box together with essential stationery items which will be needed for classwork as well as for projects and posters. *Covering of books:* Any paper can be used to cover the exercise books, with plastic covers and clearly marked with name, grade and subject. Textbooks should preferably be covered with DC fix to prevent wear and tear, and marked with your child's name.

CLOTHING SHOP

The Clothing Shop is situated on the Primary School campus, close to the tennis courts. It is open every week on Mondays and Thursdays from 16h00 to 17h00 and Tuesdays from 14h00-15h00.

The last opportunity to purchase clothing before the school holidays will be on **Thursday, 28 November 2024 from 16h00 to 17h00. Please Note: The Clothing Shop will remain closed for the duration of the holidays.**

The Clothing Shop will be open on the following dates for all parents before the start of the new term:

- **Tuesday, 7 January 2025 from 11h00 to 15h00**
- **Wednesday, 8 January 2025 from 14h00 to 17h00**
- **Thursday, 9 January 2025 from 15h00 to 17h00**

PAYMENT FOR CLOTHING SHOP ITEMS

The clothing shop is a business that is run independently from the school. Clothing may not be purchased via your school fee account. The clothing shop has a credit card facility for your convenience.

TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS

On the first school day of the year and the last school day of the year, no transport to and from the border post will be provided. For the rest of the year, the following arrangements apply unless otherwise advised: Going home at the end of a term:

Lesotho : Transport leaves at 12h00. ETA is 14h30 at **Maseru border post.**

RETURNING TO SCHOOL AT THE BEGINNING OF A TERM

All children must be at the border posts by 10h00 to facilitate time delays. All transport will leave the border posts **strictly at 12h00** on the day before school opens. Please Note that some parents are not adhering to this and delay the trip. The driver will not wait for latecomers. The driver will not make stops for tuck. Parents are to pack lunches and refreshments for their children for the trip.

Arrangements may vary from term to term and parents will be notified by email from the Head of the Boarding House Ms Nicole Stevens' office, regarding details at the end of every term. Parents are welcome to contact the House Matron, Miss Ansua Du Plessis (ansuaduplessis@dominic.co.za) directly for any queries regarding transport arrangements.

Please book a seat well in advance via email (ansuaduplessis@dominic.co.za) and please do so by no later than two weeks before the date of departure or date of collection. Failure to book timeously will result in you having to make alternative arrangements. Since we have limited seats, these will be reserved on a "first come, first served" basis. As soon as you reserve a place, your account will be charged. Failure to honour your booking will not result in a refund.

NOTE THE FOLLOWING PLEASE:

- **Please Note: Boarding and school fees are payable in advance and should be paid in full before the start of Term 1 for 2025.** No boarder will be allowed into the Boarding House unless **the first term's boarding fee and first month's school fees have been paid.** Please bring along proof of payment in case of a query on your account.

MEDICAL CONSENT FORM

The submission of completed Medical Consent Forms and Medicine Dispensing Forms are compulsory. These forms must be updated annually and must be accompanied by a copy of the Main Members ID and a copy of both sides of the Medical Aid Card. Given the challenges that we face in securing quality Medical

Care from State Hospitals, it is compulsory that all parents carry Medical Aid or, at the very least, Medical Insurance (Hospital Plan) so as to ensure that should the need arise, suitable Medical Care will be accessible for your child.

MEDICAL AID: A valid South African Medical Aid cover is compulsory for all boarders.

GRADE 8 ORIENTATION: HIGH SCHOOL

During the second week of school, the Grade 8s will have an Orientation Week, co-ordinated and supervised by the Grade 8 Head. During this time, they will get to know the Grade 12s, who in turn, will teach them all about the “ins and outs” of high school life. The programme is aimed at developing relationships and helping the children to settle into the high school quickly in a friendly and entertaining way.

The orientation programme begins with an orientation day on 10 January – see schedule below:

- 9 January : First Day of School. Bring suitcases, all writing books (no textbooks), etc. to school.
- 10 January : Bring notebook & pen only. Wear PE clothes (tracksuit, golf shirt & shorts with tackies) and bring your lunchbox/tuck money.
- Week of 13-17 January : Orientation week – you will receive instructions during the first week of school on what to wear etc.
- **All others (Gr 9-12)** : ***Pupils will commence with the academic programme from the first day of school and thus are to bring all textbooks, writing books, stationery and school bags to school.***

COMMUNICATION

Communication is always a matter of priority, so please note the following:

News is distributed via Facebook, Instagram and the weekly newsletter, called the *St Dominic's Chronicles*, which can be accessed using a link from our Facebook page and our website: www.stdominicscollege.com

BOARDING HOUSE HANDBOOK AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Before being allowed into the Boarding house, all parents are required to have signed the Code of Conduct.

YOUR CHILD'S WELFARE

The welfare of your child is our priority, and we assure you of our commitment to providing a quality educational experience across all aspects of your child's care at St Dominic's. We look forward to a productive and happy relationship with you for many years.

We look forward to seeing all of you on Wednesday, 8 January 2024, before 16h00, when you settle your children back into the Boarding House.

PLEASE NOTE:

ALL Matric Boarders for 2025 must please be back at the Boarding House on Tuesday, 7 January 2025 by 11am, in order to welcome and assist with the New Boarders arrival at 12h00.

Yours sincerely



Deena Naidoo
EXECUTIVE HEADMASTER