



ST. DOMINIC'S COLLEGE

WELKOM

Education with a leading edge

Pre-Primary School Information Guide 2025

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONTACT DETAILS

POSTAL ADDRESS

P O BOX 382

WELKOM

9460

RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

89 JAN HOFMEYR RD

WELKOM

9459

WEBSITE ADDRESS: www.stdominicscollege.com

EXECUTIVE HEAD:

Mr Deena Naidoo

PRE- PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:

Mrs Corlia Smit

csmit@dominic.co.za

ADMISSIONS:

Ms Robyn Wagner

SITUATED AT THE HIGH SCHOOL

admissions@dominic.co.za /

rwagner@dominic.co.za

PRIMARY SCHOOL SECRETARY:

Mrs Gerrie Gemmell

TEL: 057 352 2686

FAX: 057 357 1021

BURSAR:

Mr Adriaan Bergh

abergh@dominic.co.za

WELCOME

Dear Parents/Guardians

St Dominic's College is one of the finest independent schools in the Free State and boasts four schools on our 18 hectare campus. This presents a unique opportunity that allows our children to transition through the school from Little Saints (3 months) to the High School.

St Dominic's College is a traditional church school, established in the proud traditions of the Dominican Sisters and Christian Brothers. Whilst proudly Catholic and firm in promoting strong Christian values, we welcome pupils from all denominations. Teaching tolerance is an important part of ensuring that every child is treated with dignity and respect.

We place great emphasis on encouraging moral and spiritual growth in keeping with Christian principles and to this end, Religious Education forms an integral part of school life and serves to help pupils grow in faith. Our children derive significant benefit from our values based approach to teaching and learning and ultimately all our teachings are based upon the corner stones of respect, compassion, commitment, discipline and integrity.

Few schools provide such an opportunity, an opportunity that potentially sees children starting at 3 months old and then progressing through the Pre-Primary School, the Primary School and finally the High School, preparing the road to their university of choice.

Little Saints is an exceptional nursery school, specialising in early childhood development. At 12 months of age your baby will achieve "toddler" status and will join the 1-2 year age group of the Little Saints Nursery School. **Little Saints Infant Care Centre** was launched in 2012 and can accommodate babies from 3 to 12 months old and provides a stimulating learning environment that promotes growth and development across all spheres of early childhood development.

The Nursery School can accommodate forty toddlers. It is during these important developmental years that we expose our children to basic pre-school learning activities that will assist them in developing independence in preparation for graduation to Pre-Primary School at age 3, turning 4, in their respective year.

The Pre-Primary School operates on a large, modern premises. Facilities include covered sandpits and verandas with green, shaded playgrounds. Our modern playrooms are well equipped with educational toys and teaching aids. The outdoor area has been designed as an exciting learning environment where each child can safely extend their physical, social and emotional development. Our Pre-Primary School aims to ensure that children achieve independence, and that they learn how to integrate and adopt accepted etiquette in their day to day contact with others.

Aftercare is available at the Pre-Primary School daily, from Mondays to Thursdays between 13h30 and 17h00, and on Fridays between 13h30 and 16h30, under the care of a qualified teacher. This facility is not available during school holidays.

The daily programme has been structured along prescribed Pre-Primary School lines to enrich each child's experience and guide him/her towards school readiness. The groups follow a thematic approach with art, stories, music, drama and movement being incorporated into each theme.

Our teachers are all creative, enthusiastic and caring people who have the children's best interests at heart. We also have wonderful assistants to help in the classrooms. The Pre-Primary School falls under the leadership of the Pre-Primary School Principal and should you wish to bring a matter of concern to the attention of the school, the correct channels to follow would be to first discuss the matter with the teacher concerned and then the Pre-Primary School Principal. Should the matter not be resolved this way, it should be presented in writing to the Headmaster.

We welcome you to our happy family!

Mrs Corlia Smit

PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

GENERAL PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL INFORMATION

PTA

Support for all fund raising ventures is essential in building the school community. As a community orientated school, with an entrenched family spirit, it is expected that each family attend our functions. As a private institution, we rely on fund raising events for certain projects at the school, hence, your loyal support is vital for the future prosperity of St Dominic's College. We would like to encourage you to make yourselves available to serve on the PTA and also support the new fundraising initiatives in the Pre-Primary School.

SCHOOL HOURS:

The school hours are from 07:45-13:30. PLEASE BE PUNCTUAL! The gates will be unlocked at 07:00. Under NO circumstances may children be left at school without an adult in attendance. **PLEASE TAKE NOTE: Pickup times for the various grades are as follows: Gr RRR: 12:30, Gr RR: 13:00, Gr R: 13:30.** Children left at school after 14:00 will be sent to the Aftercare Centre and parents will be charged accordingly.

TRANSPORT AND LIFTS:

The school MUST be informed of all your transport arrangements as we have your child's safety at heart. We will only allow them to be collected by a person duly authorised. If, for any reason, transport arrangements are changed, a written note must be sent to school to inform us of the person who will collect your child. The school office MUST be contacted during school hours should prior notification not be possible.

SCHOOL FEES:

In order to facilitate the payment of school fees, a debit order system is in operation. Details appear on the registration forms. School fees for **all** Pre-Primary School classes are paid in instalments (**PER MONTH** x 11), payable before the 7th of each month before interest is charged. (From the end of January until the end of November).

ILLNESS:

Children with severe coughs, colds or infectious conditions may not attend school. Please note that the teachers will not administer medicines (analgesics or antibiotics, etc.) to your child. If your child contracts an infectious disease, please notify the school as soon as possible. If your child is absent from school for any reason, a letter to explain his/her absence should be sent with the child on his/her return to class, or you may inform the school telephonically.

PARENT EVENINGS:

Parent evenings are held the second week of every new term. This is the perfect opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with the class teacher, and to come and see the work they do in class.

COMMUNICATION:

In order to simplify our communication, we provide each child with an A5 plastic envelope. This envelope must be returned to school PROMPTLY. We ask you to initial all notes sent by the teachers on the form provided. The letters must be signed for, next to the appropriate date. News is distributed via Facebook and the weekly newsletter, called the *St Dominic's Chronicles*, which can be accessed using a link from our Facebook page and Website: www.stdominicscollege.com

REFRESHMENTS AND FOOD:

Breakfast will be served at 08h00. Lunch will be served at 11h30. Each child should have a small suitcase, with his/her name on the **INSIDE**, in which to carry a spare set of clothes. A fruit of choice must be sent to school EVERY day. Please provide yoghurt, water and juice/cool drink for your child daily. An extra lunch must be packed should your child stay for After-Care.

CLOTHES:

Allow your child to wear comfortable clothes that he/she can manage on his/her own. Ensure that all warm clothing is removable and provide **HATS** for the summer – this is optional. A spare set of clothing **MUST** be sent in the suitcase each day for the pupils at Little Saints, Grade RRR and RR classes — accidents do happen! **ALL** clothes, shoes, hats, lunch boxes, etc. **MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED.**

BIRTHDAYS:

When it is your child's birthday, you may send cake or cupcakes, party packs and cold drinks if you want to. **NO TOYS OR BALLOONS ARE ALLOWED IN THE PARTY PACKS.** The celebration begins after lunch and lasts for approximately twenty minutes. The party eats may be dropped off at school first thing in the morning. The class teacher will provide the parents with photos.

ENGLISH:

For those children who speak only a little English or are unable to speak English on entering the Pre-Primary school, it is **ESSENTIAL** that we have your commitment to actively encourage and help your child by assisting with vocabulary whenever appropriate (at home or out and about).

SCHOOL CURRICULUM:

During the year, our curriculum will cover many themes of interest and we encourage you to become involved in these with your child. Encourage him/her to bring items of interest from home to school (e.g. books, and objects they have found). These items will be returned to you on completion of the theme.

As well as the normal Pre-Primary School Programme, we include the following:

- Music for little ones and Recorder lessons for the Grade R learners
- Excursions (limited)
- Religious Education
- Large grounds for free movement, age appropriate divisions
- Playball for all age groups
- Development Program 2-6 years, with ActiKids programme developed by Pretorius Kinderkineticist.
- Extra-murals for the Grade R learners (tennis, cricket, mini-hockey, soccer)
- Aftercare facilities – (*at additional cost, please refer to Fees list*)
- Swimming for all grades, by Little Swimmers or Sesa Kids (*additional cost, please request information from teachers*)

BEAUXART, MONKEYNASTIX, VIBEZ DANCE and SWIMMING are offered during school hours. These activities are optional and come at an additional cost.

GUIDELINE DAILY PROGRAMME

Grade R Daily Routine

- 07:00-07:45 Arrival
- 08:00-08:20 Breakfast
- 08:20- 09:00 Morning ring, register, calendar + weather, Bible story, prayer, praise & worship, theme board discussion
- 09:00-09:15 Toilet routine – wash hands
- 09:15-09:45 Outside play
- 09:45-10:00 Fruit snack time
- 10:00-10:30 Language activities: Mon-Thurs: 1st Language English
Friday: 2nd language/Afrikaans
- 10:30-10:45 Toilet routine – wash hands
- 10:45-11:00 Play outside: Monday – Gross motor skills,
Tuesday – Sensory play, Thursday – Sensory play,
Friday – Gross motor skills
- 11:00-11:30 Math activities
- 11:30-11:45 Lunch
- 11:45-12:45 Art Activity, Life Skill Activity, Fine Motor Skill,
Friday–Bakers Man
- 12:45-13:00 Tidy up outside toys/class, Pack bags
- 13:00-13:30 Singing and poems, Story time
- 13:30 Departure/Aftercare

Extra Murals Grade R

Monday

- 08:30-09:15 – Singing
10:00-10:30 – Vibez Dance
11:45-12:45 – Little Swimmers

Tuesday

- 07:30-08:15 – Tennis/Hockey
10:00-11:00 – Sesa Swim
11:15-12:15 – Recorders

Wednesday

- 07:30-08:15 – Tennis/Hockey
10:00-11:00 – Monkeynastix

Thursday

- 10:00-10:30 – ActiKidz
10:30-11:00 – Beaux Art
11:00-11:30 – ActiKidz
12:45-13:30 – Cricket/Soccer

Friday

- 10:00-11:00 – Playball/Playgolf

Every Friday – Bakersman

12:00 Prayer every day

NO TOYS are to be brought to school since heartache results from **BROKEN OR LOST TOYS**.

Pre-Primary drop off is from 07:00-07:45 and collection is at (Gr RRR: 12:30; Gr RR: 13:00; Gr R: 13:30).

Meals are provided, but you are responsible for fruit, yoghurt, water, juice & snacks.

Pre-Primary closes for the school holidays, as well as public holidays/ long weekends.

AFTERCARE:

Aftercare is available at the Pre-Primary school daily, **MONDAY to THURSDAYS**, between 13:30 and 17:00, and **FRIDAYS** between 13:30 and 16h30, under the care of a qualified teacher. This is at an additional cost. Please see our Fees List for prices. This unfortunately excludes holidays. Aftercare forms are available on request.

GRADE 1:

We must remind you that the fact that your child is attending St Dominic's Pre-Primary School is no guarantee that he/she will automatically be accepted into a St Dominic's Grade 1 class. The required READINESS test must be passed at the end of the year. This test is done in class by the class teacher in Grade R and is free of charge. All the Grade R pupils write the school readiness test.

PLEASE NOTE:

You are required to give a TERM'S written notice should you intend removing your child from St Dominic's College and this serves as an important reminder.

Drop off and go: Our Assistants wait at the Pre-Primary School gate inside our school grounds to safely receive the pupils from you at the gate.