



Hoërskool

LADYSMITH

High School

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Dear Parents

This letter contains **important** information. Please read it carefully.

## 1. **SCHOOL FEES**

At the Annual General Meeting of parents held on Monday, 28 November 2016, the 2017 LHS school fees were set and approved at R10 000 per learner per year. Very few **comparable** high schools country-wide are able to set the same or less school fees for 2017. Our reasonable fees together with the positive attitude of our parents, is the reason why the school fees for 2016 have almost been recovered in full.

The following resolution was accepted by our parents at the Annual General Meeting:

- 1.1 That the school fees for 2017 will be R10 000 per learner.
- 1.2 That school fees should be paid in full by the end of the March 2017. (A discount of R500 per learner, who pays in full, will be given).
- 1.3 If this payment cannot be made by the end of February, school fees can, as a concession, be paid in **10** equal payments of R1 000 from 31 January on every last working day of each month until 31 October. **This concession will automatically fall away if a payment is not made on the prescribed date of payment and the full outstanding balance will then be payable immediately.**
- 1.4 That parents be responsible for the purchase of prescribed textbooks and stationery over and above the school fees.
- 1.5 Parents who definitely cannot afford to pay the compulsory school fees, should complete the prescribed application for subsidy forms which are available at the school. In this way parents can apply for **partial** or **total** subsidization of school fees. Many of our parents are assisted in this way. **These applications must be made before the end of February 2017.**

- 1.6 The Governing Body has decided, as far as is possible, for parents to make use of a **stop order** or the internet system for the monthly payment of school fees. In this way parents **do not forget** their monthly commitment and children do not have to bring cash to school.

Ladysmith High School would like to make the payment of school fees as convenient as possible. The School Governing Body installed a credit card machine at the school. This will help the school and parents by minimizing the use of cash. The machine will accept any master or visa credit or debit cards. The School Governing Body would still prefer payment via bank deposit, debit order or electronic funds transfer (EFT) because then the bank fees can be kept to the minimum.

- 1.7 The Governing Body has also decided to ask each learner to donate **two reams of photocopying paper** (i.e. a ream of 500 sheets of 80 gram paper) to the school. Learners can hand their reams of photocopying paper to their register teacher from the first school day and receipt thereof will be noted.
- 1.8 All **new** parents are required to pay a **once off** amount of R200 to the computer fund.

## **2. THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND GENERAL APPEARANCE OF LEARNERS**

Section 8(4) of the South African Schools' Act compels all learners to comply with every aspect of the school's code of conduct. Apart from the fact that parents should regularly encourage their children to conform to the code of conduct, your support regarding the following is of particular importance:

- 2.1 At the beginning of every school year a few learners arrive at school with **dyed** hair or **outrageous hairstyles** creating unnecessary conflict. If **some** learners may do this, then everyone may do so and that cannot be allowed. Please, therefore, do not send your child to school on Wednesday, 11 January 2017 if his/her appearance is unacceptable. If 50% plus one of the teachers who taught the child this year, agree that **the hair is dyed or the hairstyle is not acceptable**, the parent will be asked to come to school to collect his/her child to rectify the problem which was explained during the last assembly to all the learners.
- 2.2 Learners may only wear the prescribed school shoes. Therefore please buy **school shoes prior** to acquiring fashionable shoes for social wear. No suede or any other fashionable shoes will be allowed.

2.3 Learners may only wear the prescribed long pants to school. They must be of the correct length and width around the ankles. No stovepipes or fashionable long pants will be allowed.

### 3. **SCHOOL BOOKS 2017**

Parents decided at the Annual General Meeting that the purchase of books remains the responsibility of the parent. **NB. Where the state indeed made a financial contribution to the books of a specific grade, this money will still be used to the exclusive advantage of all the learners.** All the learners have been issued with a textbook and stationery requirement list for 2017. Please encourage your child(ren) to acquire their books early in the new year. Within the first few days in January, we will endeavour to assist learners who have not yet acquired all their textbooks. Any newly prescribed textbooks (i.e. those not currently in circulation in the school), will be ordered by the school, and subject teachers will sell them to the learners in their specific classes or issue books for the year at a non-refundable deposit. **Textbooks remain the responsibility of the learner.** If a learner does not have the prescribed textbooks **and** other stationery and learning material in his/her possession at a given date, such a learner will **not** be allowed into that specific class. Learners may not **borrow** these requirements from other learners. All learner property must please be **clearly** marked. Naturally, parents who cannot afford a book(s) and **who also qualify for a school fee subsidy,** may with proof thereof, apply to the school for financial help for this purpose. No learner will be excluded from having a book for financial reasons. We will also follow the book retrieval policy strictly. Learners sign for the books they receive and it must be returned at the end of the year.

4. If you need to discuss any school matters, please contact your child's Grade Head first. The Grade Head will then bring it to my attention.
5. Please visit the school's website for more information on school matters. (lhs.co.za)

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to you as a parent(s) for your primary contribution to the education of your child, your involvement in your child's school career and for your support of the school – all contributing factors which ensure that LHS is a winning school and will remain so.

In conclusion, it is my pleasant privilege to wish you all a blessed Christmas and may the year 2017 bring you good health and happiness. The new school year will start on Wednesday, 11 January 2017.

Sincere LHS greetings.

JC PIETERSE

PRINCIPAL