

WHATS BUZZING AT BENS



☒ (011) 468-2830

☒ KYALAMISCHOOLS.ORG

☒ PERCHERON RD, WITPOORT

REMINDERS

☒ **7 August - School Closed for holidays**

School closes for the August holiday on Friday 7 August at 10h45

☒ **Holiday Club for August holidays**

There will be Holiday Club in the August holidays. Booking forms will come home for completion.

☒ **9 September - Term 3 2026**

School will open for Term 3 of 2026 on Wednesday 9 September

UPCOMING EVENTS

☒ **Gr 00 Concert**

The Gr 00 children will be having their concert on Saturday the 25 of July at 9:00am

☒ **BeNS Popcorn Day**

On Friday the 24 of July, there will be **popcorn** for sale by Gr 00 and Toddlers

☒ **Movie Night**

The PTF will be hosting a Movie Night on Thursday 6 August (16h00 - 20h00), on the BPS field.

Food trucks will be available.

☒ **Celebration of Parents Day**

On Friday 7 August we will be hosting a 'Celebration of Parents' Day. Details will follow.

Message from the Headmistress



I recently attended a webinar over 4 weeks on "How to Talk so Children Will Listen".

One of the frequently repeated comments was - "Every behaviour is communication."

We know this from infants who alert us to something by crying, to toddlers who point at something they want, to children having a tantrum when they cannot get their own way - often because they do not have the language to express their frustration.

I have included five "bedtime" or dinnertime questions to allow children to process their day at school. Responses will obviously differ with the child's age, and these questions can be used well into primary school age children - and even beyond - to understand your child better, and to bring them closer to you.

1. What made you happy today? (helps them think about positive moments and open up.)
2. Was there anything that made you sad or upset? (gives them space to share hidden feelings)
3. What was your favourite / best part of today? (encourages reflection and connection)
4. Is there something you want to tell me? (opens the door for deeper conversations)
5. What are you looking forward to tomorrow? (builds a sense of security and excitement)

Important things to remember for these engagements are

- giving your child your full attention while you chat (put phones away and do this away from the TV!)
- making sure you have sufficient time to have these discussions
- encouraging more than single word answers (can you tell me more about that?)
- If they cannot give an answer maybe "steer" the response by giving choices (did you like painting or playdough today; did you swing or climb today etc)





Teacher Feature



NICOLA DEVITT - GR0 TEACHER

I love... my children, my friends, and having a good laugh!

I really don't like coffee

My favourite place: anywhere with a view

What people should know about me: I am very shy but once I know you, I don't keep quiet!



SALOME HIGGINS - GR0 TEACHER

I love: travelling, being with friends and family, handbags and perfume!

I really don't like brussel sprouts, arrogant or rude people

My favourite place: anywhere with a sea, especially Cape Town and Venice

What people should know about me: I love speed and have been on/in many wild rides!

NOKUTHULA NDOBE - GR0 ASSISTANT

I love...going to church and doing my garden

I love this about people: a good smile!

My favourit place: Home

What people should know about me: I love the Lord and am a born again Christian





Last month in photos!





Interesting Read



What Does an Occupational Therapist Do?

Children may experience delays in a variety of skills. An occupational therapist helps children develop the foundational skills needed for daily living, learning, and play. Through targeted, play-based activities, they help children to master tasks like skills of daily living, fine and gross motor skills, emotional regulation, socialising, and learning support, ultimately building independence and confidence.

Paediatric occupational therapists evaluate and treat children through several key areas:

- **Daily Living Skills:** Teaching essential self-care tasks such as planning, dressing, and using utensils.
- **Motor Skills:** Building fine motor skills (like gripping a pencil, using scissors, and buttoning clothes) and gross motor skills (such as balance, running, and jumping).

- **Sensory Processing:** Helping children who are either over-sensitive or under-sensitive to external stimuli (like sounds, textures, or lights) process these feelings so they do not become overwhelmed.
- **Cognitive & Executive Function:** Assisting with attention, memory, planning, sequencing, and problem-solving, particularly for academic tasks.
- **Social & Emotional Growth:** Guiding children on how to manage frustration, regulate their emotions, and interact appropriately with peers.

A teacher may recognise that a child needs specialist help in one or many of the above areas and then refers to an Occupational Therapist. To determine exactly what a child needs, therapists conduct thorough evaluations. Based on this, they develop an individualised therapy plan. Early intervention allows a child to reach appropriate milestones and skills, leading to less frustration and ultimately success in academic tasks, as well as effective social and emotional development.