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Term 1, Issue 9

# Japari Newsletter

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Dear Parents

We understand that there will be some anxiety and uncertainty for us all as we embark on any new journey. With any change comes many challenges, but it is through these that we are stretched and grow in the most meaningful ways. In this process there will be many lessons that your children, and yourselves, will learn that are not confined to the work and objectives set by our teachers.

I take this opportunity to thank our wonderful team of teachers for their hard work, commitment and the positive manner in which they have engaged in the demands that have already been placed on them. Their effort in preparing the work packs, available for all our grades, gives me the assurance that we will minimise the effect of this pandemic on our academic programme. At the time of writing this, most parents have collected their child's work pack from the hall. Remaining work packs can be collected until Friday 20 March until 10.00 am.

Parents can also access these work packs digitally, by going onto our webpage, [www.japari.co.za](http://www.japari.co.za). From the Home Page, scroll down to where the blue bar that used to accommodate our latest newsletters. The Blue Bar will now read, "School Closure Work Packs". Click on this link and it will take you to individual folders entitled Grade 1, 2 etc. In addition to this there is a folder entitled "Additional Resources", which includes a number of additional worksheets, relevant and interesting resources that our children can use and benefit from. Our children can also access their Purple Mash accounts from home.

We understand that both you the parent, and our children, will face challenges in this method of "remote education". Our teachers have tried to make their worksheets as easily understandable as possible. We appeal to our parents to encourage your children in these uncertain times. Structure time periods during the day that are convenient to positively encourage your children to complete their exercises to the best of their ability. Assure them that they can manage the work required of them.

Our teachers, although not at school, are available to assist from home. All teachers email addresses will be at the end of this newsletter. Please contact them if you need any assistance. They are ready to help.

As per the latest ISASA Corona Virus and School Closures memorandum, definitive plans are impractical as the Corona Virus pandemic, could either intensify or dissipate. This necessitates that our response during this uncertain time, be flexible and based on the latest known facts.

It is anticipated that our prepared work packs and additional resources will be completed by Thursday 09 April, and Japari will close then for the holidays.

School will re-open on Tuesday 05 May, with teachers on duty from Monday 04 May as scheduled.

Learners should return in winter uniform: blue Japari sweatshirt, white PE shirt and grey pants/skirts. Grade 7s must wear long sleeved blue shirts, ties and blazers. The uniform shop will be open on 04 May. There will be a two-week transition period permitted.

We appeal to you to not allow your children to make contact in social settings. They should be at home, if as a school community, we wish to be spared from a rapid community based transfer of COVID-19.

I wish you all of the best. May God watch over us and strengthen us during this difficult time.

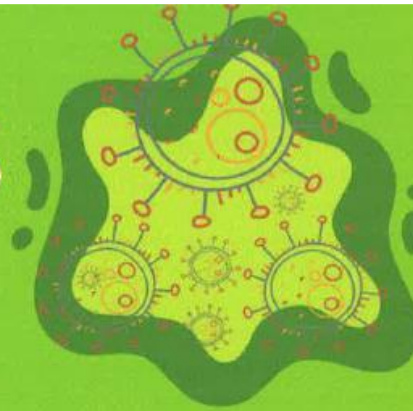
Regards

**Steve Rees**  
**Headmaster**

## **List of class teacher emails:**

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	Deanne Van Zyl	<a href="mailto:deannevz@japari.co.za">deannevz@japari.co.za</a>
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Library	Mandy Wheeler	<a href="mailto:mandyw@japari.co.za">mandyw@japari.co.za</a>
Reading Department H.O.D.	Brenda Roberts	<a href="mailto:brendar@japari.co.za">brendar@japari.co.za</a>

# CORONAVIRUS COVID-19



## What are Coronaviruses?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause respiratory illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). Coronaviruses are zoonotic, meaning they are transmitted between animals and people.

## What is COVID-19?

SARS-CoV-2 is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans. COVID-19 was identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness first detected in Wuhan, China.

## What are the symptoms?

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath. Symptoms may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

## How it is spread?

Human coronaviruses most commonly spread from an infected person to others through:

- The air by coughing and sneezing.
- Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands.
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands.
- Keep your distance. Maintain at least 1 metre distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.

## What are the prevention measures?

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19 disease. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

There are certain steps you can take to reduce your exposure to SARS-CoV-2:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.
- Cover your mouth and nose with your flexed elbow or a tissue. Throw away the tissue in a bin immediately and wash hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces that are frequently touched.
- Avoid close contact with anyone who has a fever and cough.