

## Acting Deputy Principal's report for 2016 - S Jonker

Since January of this year, I have been the acting Deputy Principal at CKPS.

I am a **teacher** first of all, and have been teaching Social Sciences to the Gr7's. During these past few months, I have proven to myself that if you are a dedicated teacher, you are able to teach any grade. The jump from Gr 1 to Gr 7 was no joke, but I'll never forget my astonishment on the 1<sup>st</sup> day in Gr 7, when learners responded to my 1<sup>st</sup> instruction (unlike Gr 1 where you have to repeat everything at least 3 times).

At our school I am also in charge of **discipline** – a well-disciplined child is a child who is able to learn. This includes:

**Late coming** – The bad habits that you instill in your child now, will stay with them forever. When the 7:35 bell rings - learners who are late, go to the waiting area and are marked as a late-comer by Vusi. He takes the results to the office, and with our new system in place, parents receive a sms to inform them of this.

**Absenteeism** – I call or email the parents of learners who are regularly absent. These names are sent to our District, as absenteeism is seen as a huge negative factor in academic results of our learners.

**Bullying** – Normal bullying incidents are handled by the educators, but if it becomes a serious problem, I deal with it in the office. Parents are informed and counselling is arranged.

**Cell phones** – Our policy states that the use of a cell phone is banned, which means that they are allowed at school if the phone is switched off and not taken out of the bag during the school day. If a child uses the phone in class or during break, the phone will be confiscated and kept in the safe till the end of the term. I am of the opinion that no primary school learner should have a cell phone, as they are not old enough to deal with the dangers of social media. Just as a matter of interest, it is found that teenagers are developing closer bonds with their peer groups and, as a result, pushing away from their parents at earlier ages.

**Uniform** - I am not going to go into a lot of detail as the policy says it all. I would just like to mention that our biggest continuous problem this year has been the boys' haircuts. Go and take a look at what these young boys look like at schools who allow the soccer haircuts, comb-overs and steps in the hair.

**Code of conduct** – Our new admin system once again will simplify this whole process. Warnings for various offences can be sent via sms. In future you will also be notified of a detention class via sms, as I am aware of the fact that my letters do not always arrive home.

**Councillors and monitors** – I organize a leadership camp early in the year and I am in charge of their duties at school, as well as collections to be taken to the community.

**Staff Development** – I try to source courses and workshops that are directly related to and will keep educators abreast of latest trends and developments. I also manage the educators' IQMS and internal appraisals.

**ICT** – I share educational Apps and developments in this area with regard to extending learners and encouraging the development of higher order thinking skills so necessary for 21 century.

I am on the **SGB and FRC** of the school. I am also the electoral officer and run elections at one of our neighbouring schools.

Last but not the least I would just like to make use of this opportunity to thank the most amazing colleagues in the world. They have been there for me 100% this year, through the good and not so good times. My time as acting deputy will come to an end soon, and I will be returning to my HOD Position in the Foundation Phase in 2017. I will look back on this year with no regret as it taught me so much about my own abilities.

*“Surround yourself with the dreamers and the doers, the believers and the thinkers, but most of all, surround yourself with those who see greatness in you, even when you don't see it yourself.”*