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18th June 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians and Teacher,

COVID 19 WINTER HOLIDAY

During the 29th Public Briefing on Namibia's Covid-19 response on Tuesday 15th June the President announced a four week 'winter holiday' for schools from 25th June to 26th July along with other changes to the term dates for the rest of the year. The winter holiday and dates were confirmed in a Ministry of Education circular on Wednesday, 16th June (07/2021). Yesterday, the Ministry of Education confirmed that the four week winter holiday is compulsory and applies to all schools in Namibia including private schools.

Whilst understanding the need to physically close the school building and to limit the number of people that gather together under the shadow of ever-increasing Covid-19 statistics, Alexanders would like to try and keep things as *normal* as possible for our small community. Therefore, whilst we shall be making some minor adjustments to our term dates, Alexanders will not be taking a four-week holiday. Rather we shall revert to learning from home / virtual online learning.

Changes to Term Dates

Term 2A will end on Friday, 25th June as scheduled.

However, the mid-term holiday will now be two weeks long: Monday, 28th June to Friday, 9th July.

To compensate for this loss of teaching time, the end-of-term holiday will also only be two weeks long:

Monday, 23rd August to Friday, 3rd September.

The term dates remain unchanged thereafter with the last day of the academic year still scheduled for Friday, 3rd December.

WINTER TERM (TERM 2)

First day of term:

Monday 17 May

Half-Term holiday:

Monday 28 June – Friday 09 July (2 weeks)

Last day of term:

Friday 20 August

SPRING TERM (TERM 3)

First day of term:

Monday 6 September

Half-Term holiday:

Monday 18 October – Friday 22 October

Last day of term:

Friday 3 December

Learning from Home / Virtual Learning

The first two weeks of Term 2B will be learning-from-home weeks and all lessons will be delivered virtually.

Term 2B Week 1

Monday 12 July - Friday 16 July

Learning from Home / Virtual Learning

Term 2B Week 2

Monday 19 July - Friday 23 July

Learning from Home / Virtual Learning

Term 2B Week 3

Monday 26 July - Friday 30 July

Face-to-face Classroom Teaching

Caution

As a community, we have been here before. Let us be prepared for all possible future eventualities.

There is no guarantee that we will be able to return to face-to-face classroom teaching on Monday, 26th July.

We cannot predict what further restrictions may be implemented on 30th June. **As a community, let us hope for the best but prepare for the worst!** Therefore, we urge all our parents to put long-term plans in place for learning from home / virtual learning.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Oosthuizen

Principal

Alexanders Private School



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