



PARENTS' ASSOCIATION 2023

LENDY PARK SCHOOL THE PA NEWSLETTER Term 2 | June 2023

Hello Lendy Park Parents

Welcome to our June Parents Association Newsletter. The term has started off with a COLD bang. Well done to all our little ones for bearing this cold weather to attend school on time. Our 0720am starts are early but important to ensure our little ones are settled and ready to learn. I have been thinking a lot about our journey as a parent body, as I also see our dialogue on our various parents' groups. This is certainly a **Year of Consolidation** as we all work to learn each other, learn more about our school and figure out ways on how we can all contribute to the GLORY of Lendy Park School. It's wonderful to hear of how parents are supporting the school from donating tights to sports teams, oranges for the games, projectors for the classes, organising our

parents' support kit for other parents, paying school fees on time, bringing children to school on time - it's truly heart-warming. Thank you so much my fellow parents, may we continue this journey with heart and courage.

On behalf of our parents' body, I attended my first board meeting and had a formal introduction to the Board of Trustees. It was an opportunity to bring forward to the Board of Trustees issues that are raised by the parents' body. I discuss in this newsletter some of the major issues and outcomes.

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up"

Ephesians 4:9-10 "

From the Desk of the Chairperson

Financial Position

We are living in tough economic times, and we must be very grateful we are able to pay school fees for our children and support them in their various endeavours. Lendy Park School only functions if we, the parents are paying our school fees on time and in full. Over the years this has not always been the constant, we have several parents that have left the school for non-payment of school fees. Some of these parents still have a large debts with the school.





In addition, we have had a drop in enrolment: we hope as we work together to build up the name of our school this will improve. We are happy and grateful to learn of some of the austerity measures that have been taken by our administration while ensuring that the quality of education remains exceptional. Its austerity for prosperity and kudos to our Administration and the staff who love this school so much. The staff have sacrificed some of their benefits to keep things going at Lendy Park as opposed to a fee increase. The board of trustees has also helped significantly by covering the costs of some renovation work at the school. I am happy to report that a lot of plans are in motion and much progress is being made in our financial planning. The board of trustees is also working on their five year plan and will soon be sharing it with us.

The bus matters are still being carefully handled by the lawyers. In the meantime, the school has been working on sharing options for us. Your cooperation will help with arriving at amicable and favourable solutions that will also work to **ensure all our children are safe.**

Lendy Park School Uniforms

Thank you to all the parents who raised concerns regarding school uniforms and pricing. Our Administration had a meeting with our manufacturer and retailer, Machipisa. It's also good to learn that the owner of Machipisa is an alumnus of Lendy Park School and is very happy to receive all our feedback to ensure that there is provision of good quality and affordable school uniforms for our children. Please see attached the pricing list for all Lendy Park Uniforms. Parents **must** purchase all the school uniforms at Machipisa so that we ensure that, should there be problems with quality assurance and pricing, we can collectively have this addressed: a form of collective bargaining for all our benefit.

Educational Trips and Camps

We are excited to have these continued at Lendy Park School. While we work to solve the bus issue, we will have to come up with creative means to ensure that the children still go on their trips. We are encouraging the parents to engage and follow the conversations on the planning and organization in the ad hoc school groups as formed. Coming up is the grade 4 camp at Lasting Impressions. Parents are encouraged to work alongside the planning committees to make this trip memorable for our Grade 4 children

Boarding Hostels

Iron sharpens iron. Many thanks to the parent's body for continuing to contribute ideas towards improving our boarding spaces. We are happy to report on the following feedback:

Transport – The school has, due to the larger numbers of boarders this term, started to use the two Coasters. A problem with this is that we can no longer use the trailer as the Coaster with the trailer is too long to park at Causeway. If anyone can help with a different location, this can be addressed. Cresta Lodge has been approached but no response received about using their car park. Again, if anyone has a contact that could help, this would be appreciated.

A female chaperone has been engaged to travel with the children. However, this has resulted in both buses having to travel together as there are girls at both pick up points.

Facilities – it is agreed that the mattresses need replacing and furniture is required but unless there is an agreement by the parents to raise a levy to fund these purchases, the school, at this time, cannot afford it.

There is no male JM involved in the care of the female children at the hostels. There are significantly less girls in boarding so there is only a Matron there. If a JM is to be taken into hostels, it would mean reducing the numbers of girls in boarding to accommodate her.

The children are only allowed to use the showers and not the tubs. More showers are required when funding allows.





The issue of rats at the boys' dormitory is ongoing. We trap and poison (where safe to do so) continually but with the kitchens attached it will continue to be a problem. It is important, if these kinds of issues arise, that they are reported immediately to the matrons or the deputy head.

All of these problems will be resolved when we are in a position to build a new facility: this idea and how to fund it is currently under consideration.

Child Care – This is our primary consideration.

Homework is being done at school under the supervision of a teacher and the junior master and mistresses. There is always a female present to chaperone the girls. If it is not finished by 6pm, it is taken back to hostel.

The clothing is laundered and returned to the children's piles. If a child ends up with different clothing, it means that they have most likely taken the clothing from the wrong pile. It is essential that all clothing is clearly marked. There is an assistant to help the matron.

Provided the matrons are aware of any dietary restrictions at enrolment, we accommodate these. If they are disclosed at enrolment, we can indicate if we will be unable to make these accommodations. A big problem here is separating likes from allergies and religious restrictions. Any changes need to be communicated in writing so that we can alter our records. If you have not yet done so, please complete the form using this link.

[Information Form](#)

The matrons and teachers are aware of the needs of the girl child. For their specific needs at school, Mrs Chinyowa, Mrs Magumise and Mrs Kelly can be approached by the girls. They have emergency supplies of pads and their specific needs. The children have been given a talk, girls and boys separately, and given guidance on the specific issues relating. Additionally, the topic is covered in class as part of the ZIMSEC curriculum.

Communication – While we do our best, we acknowledge that we do not always get it right. During the week, parents may phone their children between 6:30 pm and 7:00 pm **although it is discouraged** as it can be unsettling for them. If the child has minor medical problem (headache, graze, sore, etc.), it is dealt with by the matron or Mrs Kelly and, unless specifically requested, the parents are not informed.

If it is more serious, the child is attended to by the school doctors and the parents are always informed.

Upcoming Events

Sponsored walk

Date: TBC

PA FUNDRAISING GOAL:

US\$2000.00

PURPOSE: to refurbish the school ablution block

PROCESS: each child will receive a sponsor sheet to try to raise US\$10 to be submitted on the day of the walk.

Grade 3 Hockey Festival

This is going to be a big festival and a great opportunity to show off our beautiful school and our capacity to organize. We are currently reaching out to different sponsors for the sponsorship opportunities. We are also asking for help from the parent's body at large to get sponsors on the day. The PA executive and the administration is happy to hear about your ideas and work together to further said ideas.

Policies

Please follow the link to the draft policies and provide any feedback you may have to the PA for considerations.

These policies are being implemented to ensure transparency in all aspect of the running of the school and will be added to as time goes on.

It is very important that you read these and make your contributions.

[Lendy Park Draft Policies](#)





MEET THE TEAM

THE TRUSTEES OF LENDY PARK SCHOOL

Safe guarding the Vision and Mission of Lendy Park School

Board of Trustees

The role of the Board of Trustees is to safeguard the mission and vision of Lendy Park School.

For this they receive no remuneration, consideration or in any way benefit from their position at this school. This is a condition of being a member of the [Association of Trust Schools](#).

In fact, it is often the opposite where they contribute to the school in many ways to ensure its smooth operation. For example some guttering, replacement of doors, painting and the projector for the Grade 3 class are all donations from Trustees.

Lend Park School operates within the guidelines of the Association of Trust Schools in all aspects of its governance. In addition, the Board of Trustees ensures additional conditions (as prescribed by the [Association of Christian Schools](#)) are met with regards to our Christian mission and vision for a saved Zimbabwe.

Please meet the Board of Trustees of Lendy Park School.



Rev. John Chinyowa
Chairman of the Board



Dr. Kevin Martin
Trustee



Dr. Farai Dzuda
Finance Committee Chair and Trustee



Frederick Gwata
Trustee



Yvonne Rutendo Dzuda
Board Secretary



Spencer Jambawo
Trustee

