

ENGAGE
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SENTINEL
KALUMBILA



Thursday, 30
January 2025

Educore Services
PO. Box 110506
Solwezi
Zambia

Dear Parents / Guardians

RE: Head Teacher's Welcome Letter

A warm welcome to all parents, students and staff to the first term of 2025. I hope that you had a wonderful and restful holiday. It is always a heartwarming feeling to see all the students back in the classes and playing during break time.

A reminder on the school expectations and procedures

Uniform

Sentinel Kalumbila School has a distinct uniform, and all parents are encouraged to purchase their child's / children's uniform from the school. Children who have uniform that is not purchased at the school will not be allowed to wear these. The uniform shop is open on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** between **09:00 and 12:00 hours**. Please contact Mr. Petimoya if you need any clarification on uniform.

We apologise for the lack of stock of some uniform items. We are currently working hard to ensure that this is resolved as soon as possible.

Hair

Sentinel Kalumbila School takes pride in the appearance of their students. A student's appearance is part of the education journey as we are imparting cleanliness in our students. The following are the guidelines for hair:

- Boys – brush cut. No shades. No fashionable styles. No hair dyes.
- Girls – braids which are shoulder length or neat natural or treated hair. Black braids **ONLY**. **No beads**, these could pose as a health hazard as children could swallow these. Please let us ensure that all students follow this rule.
- No dreadlocks for ALL (styled or not)
- No soft dreads

Staff

Sentinel Kalumbila School would like to welcome Mr. Bryson Lungu and Mrs Scholastical Mbelenje to the Sentinel family. Mr. Lungu, will teach Year 7. He brings a wealth of experience in the classroom, in preparing students for the Grade Seven National Examination and on the extra-curricular front. Mrs Mbelenje joins us in the Nursery class.

New Students

A number of new families and students have joined the school this term. We would like to welcome all our new students and families to the Sentinel Community.

Communication

Each class has a WhatsApp platform that the teachers use to communicate to the parents. Please ensure that you check these regularly. In addition, the school sends out regular emails and messages to parents using Ed-Admin, our administrative system. If you have challenges with this please could you see Mr. Petimoya.

For matters concerning academics, student behaviour, afternoon activities, trips, events and classroom related issues, please feel free to contact the teachers directly after classes – Early Years after 12:30 and Primary after 14:00. The second line of call are the coordinators, please see below.

Coordinators:

- Mrs Mulenga – Deputy Head Teacher and Early Years Coordinator
- Ms. Muzyale – Key Stage One Coordinator – Year 1 to 4
- Head Teacher – Year 5 to 7

Billing matters, admissions, withdrawals, transfers, uniform, and school fees please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Petimoya. He is available on thompson.petimoya@sentinel-kalumbila.com or by phone on 0961084746. He can be called between 07:00 to 17:00. If your call is not within the stipulated times he will not respond. Please do call the next day.

Punctuality

As the academic year begins, we would like to encourage all our students to be punctual. All students are required to be at school by 07:00 hours. Our lessons start at 07:00 sharp, if students are late, they miss out on a very important part of the curriculum, which is a Mathematics starter to develop fluency in the subject. Time keeping is part of the holistic education that we are imparting to the children.

Stationery

Please ensure that your child / children have the necessary stationery in adherence to the lists that were supplied last year. If you would like a stationery list for your child's class, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mr. Petimoya. Thank you to all parents who have bought stationery for their children.

We had Book World at the school on the 28th and 29th of November where many parents had an opportunity to buy stationery for their child / children. Thank you for the feedback on this exercise and we will ensure that their next visit will take into consideration all the suggestions from the parents. Book World will visit us again toward the end of the year. The date will be communicated.

Healthy Eating Campaign

We continue to encourage our parents to partner with the school to ensure that our students are healthy. This is done by making sure that their lunch boxes are healthy. Below is a list of healthy options but not limited to this list only:

- Fruit
- Water
- Cooked foods – with regulated portions that the child can manage to eat.
- Fruit juices

The following are **NOT** healthy and should **NOT** be packed in lunch boxes:

- Frizzy drinks – Coke, Fanta, Sprite
- Sweets or bubble gum
- Jiggies

Afternoon Activities

Afternoon activities will begin on **Monday 28th January 2025**. The schedule is as follows:

Monday – Subject and Reading Clinics. **Selected students from Year 1 to 7 are expected to stay in school up to 14:30 hours for either a subject or reading clinic.** Subject or reading clinics are for selected students who stay for one-on-one attention with their teachers from 14:00 to 14:30. The rest of the students will go home at 13:30.

Tuesday – Prefect and Student Council meetings – the teachers will inform the students which Tuesday the meetings will be held. Meetings will be from 14:00 to 14:30. The rest of the students who are **NOT** part of the student council or are **NOT** a prefect should go home at 13:30.

Wednesday - Clubs. Each of the students from Year 1 to 7 will choose a club that they would like to take this term. Clubs will start at 14:00 hours and end at 15:00 hours. Please ensure that your child / children stay for these extra-curricular activities as this helps with the development of the whole student. It is encouraged that a student attends a club for a whole year to ensure that they grasp the skills taught in that club.

The clubs on offer this Term are:

Coding (for students from Year 3 to 7), Creative Arts (Year 2 – 7), Game Rangers (for Year 5), Community Service (for selected Year 4), Handwriting, Fun with Balls (Year 3 -7), Swimming (for selected students), Music (for selected students), Aerobics, Cooking (for selected students), Number Jacks, Traditional Games, and World Changes.

Thursday – Sport. The sport on offer are ball games and cross country. **All students from Year 1 to 7 are expected to remain for a sport.** The sporting activities will start at 14:00 and end at 15:00.

Friday – Free afternoon – all students go home at 13:30 hours.

Events for the Term

This is our **academic** term. This term we cover as much of the curriculum as possible. Additionally, we have **Science Week under the theme “Fun with Science”** in March. The

objective of the Science Week is for our students to engage with science through projects, challenges and quizzes.

This term is filled with a lot of fun filled learning experiences for our students. The events are as follows:

| Event | Date | Requirements |
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| Afternoon activities begin | Monday 27 th January | All students from Year 1 to 7 |
| Welcome Assembly | Friday 24 th January | All students Announcement of Student Council Members and New Prefects |
| Early Years Orientation | Thursday 30 th January 18:00 – 19:30 | All Early Years parents invited. Parents are oriented on the school rules, parental obligations, curriculum, healthy eating, meet the new teachers etc. |
| Primary Orientation | Friday 31 st January 18:00 – 19:30 | All primary (year 1 to 7) parents invited. Parents are oriented on the school rules, parental obligations, curriculum, healthy eating, meet the new teachers etc. |
| Year 7 Assembly | Friday 31 st January | All Year 7 parents invited. |
| Year 6 Assembly | Friday 7 th February | All Year 6 parents invited. |
| Kindness Week | 10 th to 14 th February | All students to donate stationery and groceries to the children of Brave Heart Orphanage. During the month of love, we teach our students to give back to the community. |
| Valentine Activities | 14 th February | All students take part in Valentine activities organised by the Student Council . All funds raised go towards buying books for the school library. |
| Year 5 Assembly | 14 th February | All Year 5 parents invited. |
| Valentine's Dream Concert Featuring Mordecai | 14 th February 17:00 to 20:00 hours Sentinel Quad | A joint fundraiser with the school Student Council and Sentinel Alumni. Funds raised go towards buying books for the school library and |

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| | | a donation to Kambang'ala Community School |
| Cycle Test 1 | 10 th to 13 th February | All students are assessed on work covered so far in all subjects. |
| Year 6 trip to civic centre | 18 th February | Year 6 students will visit the civic centre to consolidate their learning on local government and governance. |
| Year 4 Assembly | 21 st February | Year 4 parents invited. |
| Year 5 trip to Kifubwa Heritage site in Solwezi | 21 st February | The Year 5 students visit Kifubwa Heritage site to consolidate their learning on water sources and Zambian Heritage sites under tourism. |
| Year 1 Trip to Choppies | 24 th February | The Year 1 students go to Choppies and shop. The objective is to consolidate their learning on buying things and getting correct change. |
| Inter- House Cross Country | 27 th February | All Early Years and primary (Pre-Nursery to Year 7) parents invited. |
| Year 3 Trip to Solwezi Springs | 28 th February | All Year 3 Students to attend. |
| Science week – theme – Creativity with Science | 3 rd to 7 th March | All students take part in science activities: projects, challenges, quizzes and presentation of projects to parents. |
| Science Day | 7 th March | All parents invited to a "Science Fair". Students will show case their projects to parents while a panel of judges will go round and judge the projects. |
| Half Term Break | 8 th – 16 March | School closed for half term break. |
| All students back in school after half term | 17 th March | All students expected in class by 07:00 hours after half term. |
| Cycle Test 2 | 18 th – 21 st March | All students are assessed on work covered so far in all subjects. |

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| Year 2 Assembly | 21 st March | All Year 2 parents invited. |
| ISAZ Football in Kitwe | 22 nd March | For selected students. They will travel to Simba for an ISAZ football fixture. |
| Year 1 Assembly | 28 th March | All Year 1 parents invited to attend the assembly. |
| Year 6 Visit to Kifubwa Heritage Site in Solwezi | 28 th March | All Year 6 students to visit Kifubwa Heritage Site to consolidate their learning on Zambian heritage sites and rapids. |
| Early Years Easter Explosion | 28 th March | All Early Years to have a day of fun filled Easter Activities. Cost – 100 kwacha per student. |
| ISAZ Netball | 29 th March | For selected students. They will travel to Ndola for an ISAZ netball fixture. |
| PIRA, PUMA and Year 7 End of Term Exams | 31 st March to 4 th April | All students involved in assessments. |
| Cycle 3 Tests | 31 st March to 4 th April | All students are assessed on work covered so far in all subjects. |
| Reception Assembly | 4 th April | All Reception parents invited. |
| Pre-Nursery and Nursery Assembly | 11 th April | All Pre-Nursery and Nursery parents invited. |
| Year 1 Sleep Over | 11 th April | All Year 1 students to sleep over at school in tents. This teaches the students about teamwork, leadership skills and grit. Cost – 150 kwacha per student. |
| Class Parties | 16 th April | All students to attend class parties. All students to bring snacks and drinks that they can share with their class. |
| Parent Teacher Consultations | 17 th April | All parents invited to school to discuss their child / children's progress during the term. From 07:00 – 13:30 hours. |
| School closed | 17 th April to 5 th May | All students at home |
| Reports Ready to be accessed on the Parent Portal | 16 th April | All parents to download reports from the portal. |

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| Start of Second Term | 6 th May | All students report at 07:00 hours. |
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In line with the words of a Chinese proverb, “**Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere,**” the staff at Sentinel School would like to **celebrate** all **our** students past and present.

I wish our students, teachers, and parents a fruitful term ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Vallery Lungu / Head of School