

CAPS 2012

As you are aware CAPS (Curriculum Assessment Policy Statement) is being implemented from next year in the Foundation Phase. This means all of our Foundation Phase teachers will be attending three full days of training during their well deserved Spring break.

The CAPS documents are very clearly structured to facilitate a comprehensive education programme and does not allow for as much flexibility as the RNCS did. CAPS documents are available at www.education.gov.za The implementation of CAPS also means that more teaching time is needed each week. The extra teaching time is already covered in the Foundation Phase by virtue of our extended day, so the changes will have less impact on the functionality of this phase.

However, in Grades 4 – 7 the implementation of CAPS does impact on the timetable and on our ability to facilitate the delivery of a second additional language (SAL), which in our case is Xhosa. This is of concern to us. I have spent months researching and consulting with principals of both high and primary schools in the area. We have had input invited from the Xhosa teachers in local schools to inform our debate and decisions. The diversity working group, senior management team, SGB and staff have all had opportunity for input. The outcome of all this is that if we are to continue offering Xhosa at The Grove, the only feasible option (we have considered many) is to offer it in voluntary tutor groups as part of our co-curricular programme for Grades 4 – 7.

We would like to pilot this in 2012. The intention is that the programme would be designed in such a way that, should our pupils wish to pick Xhosa up as a SAL at high school, they can be better equipped to do so.

In order to plan for this restructuring, I need an indication as to how many children would choose the tutor group option for 2012. For those groups to work well, choosing this option cannot be treated lightly. We would expect the full commitment and co-operation of both parents and children for the full year. It means difficult choices now have to be made around sport selection and other activities. Please discuss this carefully with your child/ren. Complete the reply slip on the back hereof, giving us an indication of your intention. Please return it to each child's class teacher by **MONDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER.**

ONE REPLY SLIP PER CHILD PLEASE TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RETURN ONE REPLY SLIP PER CHILD TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

REPLY SLIP CAPS 2012

Child's full name	Current grade	I want to commit to tutor group 2012	I don't want to commit to tutor group 2012

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