

Buxton Buzz

Lady Buxton Educare & Pre-Primary Centre

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Family News

Congratulations to the Swarts family on the arrival of little Serenna-Rose on 7 April 2020. We wish Mom Zoe, Dad Albert and Bailey (Peter-Pans) the very best with their new bundle of joy.



Insert: Serenna Rose peacefully asleep in her sister Bailey's arms.

WEEK-ENDING
29 MAY 2020

Staff News

- ◆ In the pipeline—Staff working on the implementation of the Covid-19 Occupational & Health Safety Measures in Workplaces (C19 OHS), 2020, document.
- ◆ Thank you to the following teachers who *were able to join* a zoom briefing (7 May) on the above document: Ts: Monica, Maggie, Rashieda, Charlene, Amina and Carmen.
- ◆ Special thanks to T Hayley for providing us with the link to document about getting ECDs ready after lock-down.
- ◆ Thank you too to the SMT & staff who, despite the technological challenges, managed to get the programme organisers (POs) / ideas for parents (May—June 2020) completed. We also appreciate SMTs (Ts Monica, Maggie, Leatitia & Charlene), T Carmen & T Hayley's co-ordination of the process.
- ◆ A Huge Thank You to Mr Petersen, with the support of Mrs Noort (HR) and T Carmen (Admin), who managed to successfully process the TERS-UIF for April 2020.



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Buxton Grade R Zoom

The use of a Wi-Fi router was sponsored to our grade R class. T Tarrin-Lee will be having her 1st grade R online session on **11 June 2020 at 11:00.**

So, Gr. Rs, please remember on Thu. 11 Jun : **Buxton @ 11:00.**

Appeal >>> Anyone out there able to sponsor the use of a laptop and Wi-Fi ?
We would like to extend our online contact during lockdown to our other classes as well. We are, however, doing the above with great caution and if we find that all the children DO NOT have access to equipment we will have to take this matter further in a mindful manner. **DETAILS of all online activities will follow towards the end of next week.**

Please SEE "From Director's Desk" on p4

Wash Hands
Wash Hands
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Wash Hands
Wash Hands
Wash Hands

Ideas for Parents

We are grateful to all our staff, who under circumstances such as no laptops, expensive data costs and adjusted livelihoods, still manage to share their ideas with parents and children.

T. Rashieda's ideas for Ed I and appropriate age groups

- 1. What I do is when we "Make and Bake" I have my kids help out with the measuring of ingredients and also have them monitor the oven time. I also have them help do the dishes afterwards.*
- 2. One could place also four different items on the table and tell the child to bring e.g. 2 red blocks or 1 book which be part of the included items during oven time. So, the idea is to integrate activities all the time.*
- 3. Colours, shapes, read Covid-19 related stories to them. Point out that the doctors and rest of personnel wearing masks, gloves. Revise colours and one could also focus on diversity of e.g. mask sizes and colours etc. Reiterate the importance of the washing of hands with soap and water. The during of the wash could be to sing... Parents may also use picture books, magazines.*
- 4. Matching game e.g. Draw 6 different animals and get the magazines and cut the same animals let them match the animals.*
- 5. Floating and sinking, cut papers into strips show them how to make different shapes, make different cards for father's day, use flour with food colouring let mix and make dough, tearing it into figures.*
- 6. Parents can always cut oranges in half and empty it with a spoon. They can put some jelly into the empty peel and freeze it. When it comes out of the freezer you can cut it in four. The children can feel and taste the different texture (on a warm day, of course).*



T. Ntosh for the Busy Bears

The ideas for the parents they can continue with the counting from 1 - 5, they can do it in different ways e.g.: they may use plastic spoons to count. Identify the colour of the spoons. Discuss the difference between a spoon and a fork. Include opposites, e.g. short and long if possible



T Hayley suggests the following links for Pre-Primary - Covid-19

<https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-coronavirus>

<https://m.k5learning.com/blog/coronavirus-worksheets>

<https://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2020/05/preschool-activities-plan.html>

<https://pin.it/ZaQoxRT>

<https://m.k5learning.com/free-worksheets-for-kids/coronavirus>

<https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/how-teachers-can-talk-children-about-coronavirus-disease-covid-19>



May—June 2020—More Ideas for Parents


*We apologise for the May-June 2020 ideas for parents and Programme Organisers (POs) that will only be online towards the end of next week. Because of communication challenges. **Please be mindful that LOCK-DOWN affects individuals and institutions to DIFFERENT degrees.***

School Fees

May 2020 and now... June 2020

Overview

- ◆ We are very grateful for the payments made in May 2020.
- ◆ We sent personal letters to All those who paid in April and in May 2020 respectively.
- ◆ **Parents who have paid and who have not received a personal letter are to please inform admin (edenroad31@gmail.com) so that we can make ensure that 'lock-down' admin system is working.**
- ◆ At a financial committee (fincom) meeting (23 April 2020) it was decided that we will maintain prudent financial planning.
- ◆ Fincom decided that the April 2020 fees and some of the Centre's reserves would be used to pay a percentage of the staff salaries; provide financial assistance to staff and cover essential operational costs. The fees income for May 2020 was far less. Staff will receive financial aid in terms of loans and TERS-UIF for May 2020.



May 2020 - Thank you to families who managed make a payment in this month. Much Appreciated!!!

Please remember it is not too late to make a payment if you are able to do so.

When will ECDs open?

In her response to our communication (5 May) Ms Tughfa Hamdulay (Director - Early Childhood Development and Partial Care; Cape Town) reiterated that we are all waiting for the national Department of Social Development to make an announcement. Parents are to PLEASE watch reliable media.

As soon as the announcement is made we will have an online survey form to gather relevant information.

- ◆ This link will be sent to ALL parents.

Please also note that our classes Babies to Peter Pans fall under the 'jurisdiction' of Department of Social Development (DSD) and Grade R falls under Western Cape Education Department (WCED).

How to avoid raising a materialistic child

Mindfulness is a very powerful attribute necessary to operate successful in social groups. The art of mindfulness is applied in many spheres of morals and values we would like to teach our children. If you are concerned about materialism and your child, you should read further. According to research, "materialism has been linked to a variety of mental health problems, such as anxiety and depression, as well as selfish attitudes and behaviours." (1)

More...

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-10-materialistic-child.html>

(1) ref, by [University of Illinois at Chicago](https://www.universityofillinois.edu/); Credit: CC0 Public Domain)

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From the Director's Desk

The lockdown has played havoc on the Centre's income and inevitably affects the way we operate. As mentioned earlier we have not received enough fees to pay staff salaries for May 2020; but the financial committee has made loans available to those staff who need financial support. Staff will be compensated in another way for what they have produced thus far. TERS-UIF payments for May 2020 are in the pipeline. Based on the communication some parents had with me, I can confidently say that **if all parents received their salaries during lockdown, they would not hesitate to pay a contribution towards school fees.** In turn Buxton would then be able to pay their staff to maintain the normal flow of lessons and interaction because there would then be money to pay for laptops and data required to do so. Unfortunately Covid-19 has devastated many of our lives and livelihoods. All of this points to the necessity of a realistic **LOCKDOWN policy** for our Centre. Such policy will also focus on getting ALL Buxton children on board for future online interaction.

Communication

We have sent personal *Thank You* letters to those folk who made school fees contributions. In our last newsletter we stated on page 1 that **our next newsletter will ONLY be published once we have matters to report on.** Based on what we know now, it will be safe to say that we will have a newsletter **ONLY EVERY 6 WEEKS OR** if we have urgent matters to report on. BUT, be aware that our LOCKDOWN PLANNING capacity is NOT the same as during NORMAL times.

Light at end of tunnel

We received the donation of the use of free data (Wi-Fi router) and laptop, Gr. R teacher Tarrin-Lee has agreed to start with a short session with her class once per week. If there is any parent who could do likewise and have a set of resources to lend to staff then we could start using the same model for another class, and the next, and the next.

Pilot Projects—Volunteers (4—6 years)

We need Buxton volunteers (4—5 year olds) to participate in a Zoom-based 'exercise' session consisting of combat movement, dance and linked to kiddies stories. The objective of this event is to provide some good exercise and familiarise children with the online experience. The session (~20min) will be presented by an external service provider who has agreed to donate a pro-bono trial on Wed. 10 Jun. Pre-Primary parents (**Peter Pans & Dolphins ONLY**) are requested to forward their child's name to edenroad31@gmail.com on Tuesday and Wednesday (2nd & 3rd June; subject - **exercise**). **NO ENTRIES outside these dates will be accepted.** Also note that we will ONLY be able to accept the **first** 10 children entered... sorry. We hope that we will be able to continue the classes at minimal costs per child depending on the outcome of the trial. Watch this space...

Pilot Projects—Volunteers (18mths— under 4 years)

Again, 10 volunteers needed for an online Zoom music fun-filled session with T Altie (Junior Jive). Parents are requested to forward their child's name to edenroad31@gmail.com on Tuesday and Wednesday (2nd & 3rd June; subject - **music**). **NO ENTRIES outside these dates will be accepted.** The first **TEN** children who register will be accepted for this pilot. Actual Zoom session: Tue. 9 June

Take care.

Sedick Dawood
Director

Your financial contributions are always welcome.
:-)

Lady Buxton
PRESCHOOL