

# Northwood News

Friday 5 June 2020— Volume 11

## *From the Headmaster's Desk*

### Thought for the Week

"If you feel like you're losing everything, remember that trees lose their leaves every year and they stand tall and wait for better days to come"

Dear Parents

The time has finally arrived for us to return to some sort of normality at school. Today we welcomed our grade 12 students back to school. These boys were orientated in terms of the Covid 19 protocols, received their adjusted timetables and now return for the start of lessons on Monday.

All the site inspections have been done, staff has been trained and all other protocols are in place, and as such, we are more than ready to receive our boys.

We have now also received the revised curriculum for Grade 8 to 11, and the Subject Heads are very confident that the boys will be able to complete the curriculum. In certain subjects, Term 2 work has been completed. If all were normal, we would be writing exams at this time.

We would like to thank you for your patience and understanding on this seesaw journey we are experiencing. Obviously, some staff are far more technically challenged than others are, yet we are all on board and all doing as best we can to keep the boys up to date with their academics. We will continue to grow and learn; we will continue improving our methods and hope that so will our boys.

After liaising with other schools in our area, Northwood had decided to give the Grade 8 to 11 boys a break for a week (08/06 – 12/06) from academic work. We will communicate the way forward with these grades towards the middle of next week. Once we have received clarity on the various submissions we have made to the Department of Education to allow us to deviate from the return dates they have published for these grades.

My hope and prayer is that we will see all our boys back at school sooner rather than later.

Regards

PP Viljoen



**The School Of Choice**  
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### Northwood Prayer Group

All parents and supporters of Northwood School are invited to join the prayer group. During 'normal times' they meet on Fridays from 7:30 am in the top campus tuckshop but during the lockdown the prayer meetings take place on Zoom. If you would like to join in this prayer meeting or any any questions please contact Sheena Carnie on 083 771 8886.



### Northwood

SPORTS  
MEDICINE CENTRE

**Phone Number:** 031 564 7675

**Address:** 47 Mackeurtan Avenue, Durban North

**Email:** [medicalcentrenorthwood@gmail.com](mailto:medicalcentrenorthwood@gmail.com)

**Open Hours:** 8am – 5pm

#### Practitioners:

**Senzo Mthembu** – Physiotherapist

**Ace Hendricks** – A&H Elite Professional Sports Recovery

**Nicole Redman** – Physiotherapist

**Dr Kevin Worth** – Chiropractor

**Ashleigh Reynolds** – Counsellor

**Naina Bhikha** – Counsellor

**Doungkamol Naidoo** – Professional Thai Massage Therapist

### Northwood Gear Shop Hours

**MONDAY AND SATURDAY — CLOSED**

**TUESDAY – THURSDAY—13h30 – 15h15**

**FRIDAY 13h15 – 14h30**

For assistance please phone Yvonne Haswell on 083 691 0135 or 031 564 1439

### 2nd Hand Uniform Shop

Situated on Lower Campus next to Northwood Gear. Please feel free to drop off all your "Pre-loved" uniforms and kit. Open every Wednesday from 12:00 to 3:00pm. Contact Lesley Sleeman on 073 202 4290

### Smalls

*These mini adverts are put in as a community service and are not specifically endorsed by Northwood.*

**CANON CAMERA EOS 450D FOR SALE.** Complete with lens, carry bag and charger. In good condition. Price: R2000.00 onco. Contact 084 500 9437

**FOR SALE**

## NATIONAL BENCHMARK TEST

Please see below letter received from Advantage Learn. There is also more information on D6 regarding NBT's.

Dear Mrs Stanley

I trust you are well despite the many changes you have had to make as a school during this time.

We wanted to reach out to you in the spirit of partnership to give you an update on the status of the NBTs and how this may affect your learners that have already done their preparation course with us.

The nationwide lockdown has presented significant challenges to the NBT test administrators at CETAP and this has meant multiple delays to the testing schedule with the latest statement indicating the NBT Online test date will **only be on the 25th and 26th of July 2020** with CETAP expediting their roll-out of enabling the tests online with a secure, proctored online testing platform. We applaud them for their decision to move the tests online to manage the current complexities surrounding lockdown. See their statement in this regard [here](#) and **note that the deadline** to register for the online test is this **Friday, the 5th of June, at midnight**.

As I'm sure you have already heard, the delay in the NBT testing schedule has meant that some Universities have opted not to use the NBTs as an admission criterion in the 2021 intake cycle. The university admission cycle takes time to process and, it seems, that for some higher education institutions these delays make using the NBT test unfeasible from a timeline perspective this year.

This naturally raises the question, do learners need to write the NBT in 2020?

Our team has proactively taken the time to investigate the current landscape across the major Universities to give you an update on status on whether or not their admission criteria have changed with respect to the NBT. Here are the outcomes of a subset of Universities while stressing that admission criteria are University **AND** faculty specific and so this list is not completely comprehensive:

### SEE TABLE OVER LEAF

As we always advise, to understand whether or not learners need to write the NBTs, they need to check the admission requirements for the faculties and Universities that they are applying to. If any of them require the NBT then they need to write them as, even if their first choice faculty and university doesn't, there is no guaranteeing that they will be admitted to their first choice and so they may rely on their second or 3rd choice which might require the NBT as an admission criterion.

Here are some key points to bear in mind relating to whether or not to write the test:

Your NBT results are valid for 3 years.

If any of your University applications require it you need to still write. It is unwise to give consideration only to your first choice.

If you want to transfer course or university, or both, in 2021 you may need an NBT score to do so.

You will get the best results if you prepare to write in your Grade 12 year.

Some bursary and scholarship programmes require the NBTs to be written.

Attached is an article from our Head of Education where he unpacks the considerations to be made in the current context. You are welcome to circulate it freely with your learners and parents.

Kind regards,

**Tracey Young-Thompson**  
**Head of Delivery and Distribution**  
[AdvantageLearn.com](http://AdvantageLearn.com)

[tracey@advantagelearn.com](mailto:tracey@advantagelearn.com) | The Green Door, 298 Cato Road, Glenwood, Durban



## NATIONAL BENCHMARK TEST TABLE

| University                       | NBT required | Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">UCT</a>              | No           | UCT have indicated that they have discontinued the use of the NBT for the 2021 intake cycle ONLY. However they are still in discussion with their CETAP (Centre for Educational Testing for Access and Placement at UCT) and their Faculty heads around the NBT requirements, as it is normally central to their admissions process. |
| <a href="#">Stellenbosch</a>     | No           | Only applications from School of Tomorrow (SOT) learners are still required to write their NBT's as part of the admission requirements                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <a href="#">WITS</a>             | Yes          | Health Science applicants will still be required to write their NBT's                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <a href="#">UJ</a>               | No           | Only applications from School of Tomorrow (SOT) learners are still required to write their NBT's as part of the admission requirements                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <a href="#">NWU</a>              | Yes          | The following degrees require NBT results as part of their admission requirements:<br>BCom (Chartered Accounting)<br>BCom (Financial Accounting)                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| NMMU                             | No           | Not required at this stage                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <a href="#">UNISA</a>            | Unknown      | They encourage learners to write it, to understand whether they are prepared for university.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <a href="#">Monash (IIE MSA)</a> | Yes          | They are not used in the selection of learners but rather to assist the education institution to support learner's individual learning needs.                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <a href="#">UP</a> (Tuks)        | Yes          | The following degrees require NBT results as part of their admission requirements:<br>All Health Sciences<br>All Extended Programmes                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| UFS                              | No           | According to their <a href="#">twitter</a> account, they will not require them for the 2021 intake only.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

**Note:** References were all University channels and are hyperlinked in the table above where possible.

## BOARDERS

Our Grade 12 boarders returned in anticipation of the 1 June academic start after lockdown. I would like to thank the staff who have been teaching them this week to make sure that they are on track for the continuation of the curriculum coverage from 8 June.

## GRADE 8 – 11

After a survey done by Subject Heads it is clear that most subjects have completed the Term 2 syllabus. We have therefore decided to firstly have a break for a week and thereafter give extra time slots for those subjects needing them. A schedule will be sent out with all the information needed.

Please see the letter from Mr Viljoen in this regard.



# Sport & Culture

**MR G. LE ROUX**

Email: [gleroux@nwood.co.za](mailto:gleroux@nwood.co.za)

On Friday morning, we welcome back our Grade 12's to Northwood again after a lengthy time away. We are all very excited to have them back, albeit a week later than expected, we can't wait to see them. I am sure there was a tremendous amount of disappointment in the hearts of all our boys as we could only imagine what a "normal" Term 2 could have looked like. We had a taste of it with two winter fixtures in Term 1 both of which brought so much promise and excitement for the remainder of the season. But it was not to be. Things changed drastically and we have to get used to a "new normal" where daily habits no longer exist. What amazes me is how quickly we are able to adapt to this and make changes and sacrifices to stay safe. It doesn't take away the heartache that this situation has brought us from a Northwood sporting perspective though.

We need our boys and parents to know that we will do whatever we can to make this year as special as possible for our Matric boys who may feel they have missed out on some of the best parts of being in Matric. We are working hard in the background with other KZN boys schools to plan as best we can for different scenarios that we may be dealt with going forward. And of course we will always be guided by making the right decision for our boys.

We congratulate Danie Van Huizen who recently signed with the Sharks. We are incredibly proud of you and wish you all the best with your rugby career going forward.



**For all extra mural details with regards to fixtures, notices, practice times and transport arrangements please visit**

**[www.northwoodschoolsport.com](http://www.northwoodschoolsport.com).**

**Remember to create a shortcut on your home screen of your mobile device for a very user friendly version of the site.**

