Crayon Kids Academy

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Dear Parents

A very warm welcome back to our Crayon Kids Academy family;

We are very excited to introduce our new newsletter in August. You will find all the important information about what is happening this month at Crayon Kids Academy and we will also reflect on the month that has passed.

We would like to once again thank all of those parents who kept supporting us during the past
few months, both through their financial as well as emotional support. We truly appreciate it and look forward to taking hands with you.

We are thrilled to have the children back at school. We are very proud of them; they have adapted to the new normal at school very well. They wash their hands and have a good understanding of social distancing.

Please remember to like our Facebook page at Crayon Kids Academy and follow us on Instagram @crayonkidsacademy.

Kind Regards
Nikita, Lieb and the Crayon Kids Team

Crayon Kids Academy

Tips of the month:

Dealing with Separation Anxiety

Starting school post-lockdown feels like the first day of the new school year. This day comes with a combination of different emotions from excitement to uncertainty. We wonder how our children will cope being back at school. This is a traumatic event not only for the child but the parent as well. Leaving your child behind in destress is never easy, however, rest assure that they still have a good day after you leave, and their tears have been wiped away. Toddlers understands object permanence—the idea that something continues to exist when it can't be seen or heard but they are not able to understand time as yet. This is why they feel a huge amount of anxiety when they are left at school as they don't yet understand when you will be returning to get them after school.

Here are a few easy and practical tips in dealing with separation anxiety;

- **Be quick with your goodbyes;** The longer you wait, the harder it gets to leave them behind. This creates more anxiety for both the child and parent. You can even think of a fun parting ritual like a high five or a goodbye song.
- **Consistency is key;** Try to establish the same morning routine when dropping off your child. They struggle to deal with constant change and a balanced routine creates a sense of safety and predictability.
- **Prepare your child for what is going to happen prior to arriving at school;** You can even start as early as the night before. Remember to communicate in a manner which the child will be able to understand. For example; "One sleep than you will be going back to school."

Remember that Separation Anxiety is a normal part of your toddler's development and they will outgrow this behaviour.

Nikita Pretorius

- *Toddler Taming Tips: Dr Christopher Green, 2003*

Research Corner

The importance of parent-child joint reading

Parents often wonder about their role and what they can do to best prepare their preschool children for their future. One of the most important and underrated activities is joint-storytelling and reading - which ties in perfectly with the Crayon Kids partnership model between the school and parents. This is informed by research which consistently shows that Early Childhood Development does not only happen at school but also requires critical parental input. For example, a recent article in *Brain and Cognition stresses the importance of parents reading to their children as opposed to outsiders/experimenters. The study is especially relevant because it highlights the importance of reading for the development of children's' linguistic development and "processing speed" - i.e. their ability to process communication. But it also suggests that parental reading, especially from print books, is much more effective for developing so-called "print-awareness" than reading by someone else. We also know that print awareness plays a critical role in the development of linguistic skills such as "oral language, reading comprehension and spelling" during later school years.

As a parent, perhaps the most important gift you can give your child during these trying times is to take away some of their screen time and replace it with good and proper, old-fashioned reading from age-appropriate print books. This will not only help foster a love for reading, but will also help with building the necessary vocabulary and foundation skills so necessary for their later school years. And you will get to spend some quality time with your child in the process...

Dr. Jacobus Liebenberg

* *Brain and Cognition*, Volume 143, August 2020
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bandc.2020.105596

School hours:

Please take note that our operation hours during the Covid-19 pandemic is 07:00 to 17:00 from Monday to Friday.

Photo day orders:

Kindly take note that you are still able to order school photos that have been taken before lockdown. We will be receiving your orders soon and will send it home as we receive it.

Please email laeticianel@gmail.com directly to place your order.

Grade R 2021:

EXCITING NEWS!

Enrolments for Grade R is now open! For more information send a n email to info@crayonkids.co.za.

School fees and payments:

Please take note that you will receive an invoice at the end of each month. We will be sending out payment reminders if your account hasn't been paid by the 5th of each month.

Puppet shows:

We are very excited to announce that we will be hosting a weekly puppet show for our learners. The aim of the puppet shows are to promote life skills. We will address themes like fire safety, stranger danger, the police and keeping my body healthy.

Teacher Elmien Liebenberg will coordinate this exciting addition to our program.

Monday 10 – 14 August 2020:

Please take note that we will not be closing during this time.

Our themes for August:

In the month of July, we had so much fun learning about a Healthy lifestyle, Garden Visitors and Wild Animals. For the month of August, we have a whole list of fun activities waiting.

Our themes for this month:

- Under the sea
- Outer space
- My Country
- Caring for the World

July art gallery:

Crocodile by **Anirban Maity.**

Elephant by **Wessel Swanepoel.**

The Ladybug, Baby sharks and Crocodile class art.

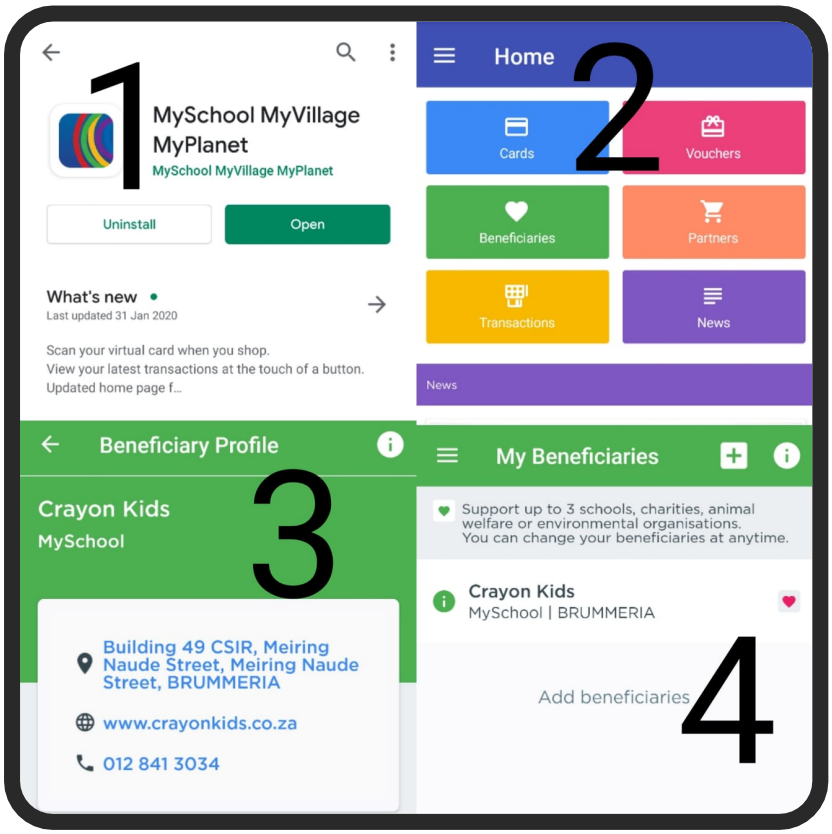
Movie day @CrayonKidsAcademy

Aria Samouris enjoying her juice.

Leago Sebigi handing in movie ticket at the entrance.

Our theme was Garden visitors.

We made hats and spoiled the children with some movie treats.



Please remember to join MySchool:

1. Download the MySchool, MyVillage, My Planet app from your appstore and create a your profile.

2. Click on the "Beneficiary" tab.

3. Search for "Crayon Kids"

4. Select the "Add Beneficiary"

You can also link your Woolworth store card on the app.