

GET AHEAD COLLEGE

Where every child feels worthy and validated.

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Dear Parents and Guardians

4th TERM NEWSLETTER

We have much to celebrate as we come to the end of another busy year at Get Ahead College. We have been challenged this year to strive to make Get Ahead College a place where *every child feels worthy and validated*. I believe that we are taking huge strides in this regard. There is still hard work that lies ahead, but I commend the commitment and perseverance of everyone involved. In this regard, I wish to thank our students, teachers, administrators, as well as the cleaning and maintenance staff, for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. Our goal next year is to continue in our efforts to make Get Ahead College a more loving and more disciplined place of learning where our core values of love, respect, honesty and excellence can find practical expression in our day to day experiences. Thank you to our parents and guardians who continue to make the necessary sacrifices to support your children's education.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

We congratulate Mvuyelwa Gali in Grade 12 for winning the 2019 Get Ahead College Dux Scholar trophy. Mvuyelwa received the award at the matric Valedictory Service which was held on Friday 11 October 2019. He achieved four gold medals as the top academic achiever in Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Accounting and Life Sciences.

Well done also to the following Grade 12 students for being gold medal winners in their respective subjects:

Unathi Mahuzi (English, Isi-Xhosa, Life Orientation),

Amanda Majwede (History, Business Studies),

Lukho Qitsi (Life Sciences),

Mvelwentle Gwama (Geography),

Aphiwe Shishuba (CAT), and

Mihlali Mpatheni (Maths Literacy).

We also celebrate the academic performance of the Grade 8's to Grade 11's in 2019. The pass rate continues to improve as seen by the overall pass rate in each grade since 2017:

	2017	2018	2019
Grade 8	81%	87%	91%
Grade 9	94%	95%	97%
Grade 10	73%	84%	94%
Grade 11	80%	95%	97%

RAFFLE DRAW

The 2019 raffle draw managed to raise a total of R19,160! This was a wonderful effort and we would like to thank everyone who generously supported this initiative. The final raffle draw took place on Thursday 21 November 2019 at the final assembly.



Council for Quality Assurance in
General and Further Education and Training



We congratulate all the winners:

- Winner of the R,5000 cash prize for the winning raffle ticket: Mr Luvuyo Mngxale.
- Winner of a tablet valued at R2,200: Babalwa Nqwemeshe in Grade 10.3.
- Winner of the laptop valued at R10,000: Asakhe Sifuba in Grade 9.3.
- Winning class for most tickets sold and who were treated to R1,500's worth of Debonair's pizza: Mrs Msutu's Grade 9.3.

The money raised from the raffle has helped us to buy a brand new sound system for Get Ahead College.

INDEPENDENT QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY (IQAA) FEEDBACK

I am glad to report that Get Ahead College has successfully completed the IQAA quality assurance process. The IQAA opinion surveys have been useful in identifying some burning issues in GAC. The focus group discussions that followed have enabled the internal evaluation team to usefully prioritise areas that require the most urgent attention. The six most pressing areas that emerged and will form the basis of the Get Ahead College improvement strategy in 2020 are as follows:

FOCUS AREA	2020 QUALITY IMPROVEMENT TARGETS
1. Learner Discipline	Creating a more conducive learning environment for all students and teachers through a stricter and more consistent application of the Get Ahead Rules and by creating stronger alignment between family and school.
2. Co-curricular programme	Expand the co-curricular program to include Athletics and Rugby and encourage greater participation in all clubs by planning fixtures better.
3. Tuckshop	Design a new menu that offers a wider choice of snacks and freshly prepared meals with a new "upbeat" venue.
4. Bathrooms	Ensure bathrooms are always accessible and meet the highest standards of hygiene throughout the year.
5. Security	Strengthen security at the school gates to ensure that all learners are safely inside the school premises after they are dropped off in the mornings and maintain strict access control throughout the year.
6. Staff well-being	Ensure all staff members are more appreciated for their service to Get Ahead College as reflected in a more supportive environment with a more competitive remuneration structure.

PREFECT SELECTION

Congratulations to the following Grade 11 students who have been elected by their teachers and the student body as prefects for 2020:

BOYS	GIRLS
Kanya Mashiya (Head Boy)	Sihle Gobodwane (Head Girl)
Athule Tida (Deputy Head Boy)	Phumelela Mgobo (Deputy Head Girl)
Hlumelo Sondle	Neliseka Makhonza
Ayabonga Shasha	Ayakha Bawuti
Thamsanqa Somfongo	Dineo Yeko
Somila Mangali	Siziphiwe Balintulu
Sesethu Kambile	Cwenga Bushula
Athule Mgcodo	Nanda Kalolo
Zukhanye Bobo	Cwenga Dwayi
Aphiwe Magcuntsu	Sibulele Maholwana
	Simamkele Mbanjeni
	Sandile Siswana

FAREWELL

We bid a sad farewell to Mrs Loren MacPherson who will take up a teaching position at Hangklip High School in 2020 as well as Mr Mwakonya who will re-locate back to Limpopo province to take up a post at Stanford Lake College. We thank them for their excellent contribution as teachers to Get Ahead College and wish them well with

their future endeavours. They will be missed!

We also say goodbye to Ms Zizopho Lange and Ms Nokulunga Lange who will also leave us at the end of the year. We thank them for the service to Get Ahead College and wish them the very best in the future.

GRADE 10 AND GRADE 11 COPIES OF IDENTIFICATION CARDS

All Grade 10 and Grade 11 students and their parents are reminded that application for official South African identity cards needs to be made as soon as a learner turns 16. Certified copies of the original should be submitted to the school office not later than six months after a learner has turned 16.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We would like to wish all parents and guardians, students, extended family members and all Get Ahead College staff members a blessed and safe Christmas. Best wishes also for the New Year. School will re-open for students on Wednesday 15 January 2020. Please see the next page for the important dates to diarise for January 2020.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. M. M.', written in a cursive style.