

May 1, 2019

Dear New Parents,

On behalf of the faculty and staff welcome to AISJ's Middle School! We are thrilled you are joining us for the 2019-20 academic year. Our school is a very special place with a diverse student body from over eighty countries across the world. Our aim is that you are well-informed about orientation and information in regards to your child's class placement.

The purpose of this letter is to highlight some important dates and events as part of our orientation leading up to the first day of school. Please mark your calendars for the following:

MIDDLE SCHOOL ORIENTATION, TESTING & COURSE SELECTION:

Both parents and students will be asked to attend a **Middle School Orientation Session** with the Counselor and Principal before the start of school. These sessions will be offered either on Wednesday, August 7th, or Thursday, August 8th. At that time, all Middle School students will need to take a **Math Assessment** and potentially a **World Language Assessment** (Spanish or French), if they are not a beginner language student. Students will also be able to **select their Elective classes** at that time.

Middle School Course Registration:

Registration for Middle School classes for new students will take place following the orientation sessions. The orientation session will provide information about our course offerings and the process for selecting courses. In advance, of course, selection, families can review the Middle School course offerings by reading the Program of Studies. The link to the Middle School 2019-2020 Program of Studies can be found on the AISJ website within the Middle School portal under the Resources tab. If you have any questions about our course offerings, please feel free email either Andy Ferguson or Kendel Leet.

The Orientation Sessions will take place on the AISJ Johannesburg campus. We encourage families to sign – up for the **earliest** one at their convenience, so that students have a better chance of attaining the classes that they want. Our schedule will be as follows:

- **Wednesday, August 7th from 9:30 am to 11:30 am in the Middle School Library**
- **Thursday, August 8th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am in the Middle School Library**

Please note Families who are unable to attend either one of these two orientation sessions will need to attend an orientation session on Tuesday, August 13th at 10:00 am with a first school start date of Thursday, August 14th.

Monday, August 12th: New Middle School Student and Parent Welcome Day:

- **When: 11:30 am to 12:30 pm**
- **Where: MS Library**



STUDENTS: Middle School Tour and “Getting To Know You Activities” with current MS students and teachers.

PARENTS: Middle School Tour and Questions and Answer Session with Principal and Counselor

Tuesday, August 13th - First Day of School:

- On arrival at school, students will be directed to the Middle School area. We will begin with an assembly in the Middle School Amphitheatre. Faculty and staff will be on hand to ensure your child is welcomed and oriented on where to go when they arrive at school.
- For those requesting to use the school bus, all bussing information will be confirmed with parents before the start of school.
- The first day of school is a Wednesday, and as such, it is an Early Release Day (ERD). All students will depart at 1:30 pm.
- Parent Association Tears and Cheers Coffee Morning 7:30 am - 8:30 am. All parents are invited to attend.

August 27th – JHB Middle School Parent Coffee Morning from 8:15 am – 9:30 am.

- All parents are invited to come to the first coffee morning of the year, which will provide new parents with the opportunity to meet and interact with returning parents and to learn more about Middle School initiatives for the 2019-2020 school year. We hope to see you there.

We wish you luck as you finalize your plans to join AISJ, and we look forward to welcoming your family into our school community soon.

Sincerely,

Andrew Ferguson
Middle School Principal