

Daily Update, Monday 19 July 2021, 9:30am



ST CHARLES COLLEGE
S O U T H A F R I C A

Dear Parents

Overcoming Destruction with Construction

This morning KZN business is involved in assessment of the losses incurred through looting and determining the extent of the destruction of infrastructure. We are encouraged by a constant stream of reports of Business owners working tirelessly to find ways to preserve the jobs of their employees, and employees pitching up in large numbers to help restore production and to salvage what has not been damaged. Food and fuel supply has been normalized in most parts of the city and province and this is due to an unprecedented gesture by other provinces of South Africa who diverted supplies destined for themselves in order to assist the people of Gauteng and KZN.

For the remainder of the year, we are taking small amounts of capital and proceeding to improve the infrastructure and security of the College. Any finances that are not spent because of disruption, will be allocated toward capital expenditure. We believe that by going forward with as many small projects that we can outsource to local business, we will make a small but significant contribution to stimulating the economy and job creation and bolstering the courage of the private sector to be the entrepreneurs we need them to be. Tomorrow I wish to share some of those projects with you as we set out to replace destruction with construction.

I was sent this poem by our Head of Humanities Faculty, Mrs Joubert, which tells a story and holds a lesson for us all:

After fire and plunder, another sound:
bristles raking broken ground.
Amidst the trash and waste and weeping,
the age-old fortitude of people sweeping.

Finuala Dowling
18 July 2021

In guarding our minds and those of our children, we need to recognise that fear is spread. The action of passing on a concentrated stream of news of unverified disasters is understandable, but this just leaves us paralysed and numb. So, this week we encourage you to go out of your way to use words and actions that recognise heroics and courage and spread news of the positive contributions that people around you have made. Our children need to see and hear that, as adults, we have the will to overcome.

South Africa is an incredible country and the solidarity and unity shown across the usual social barriers is a powerful sign of hope. This does not take our problems away, but it is a good start.

Yours faithfully

Allen van Blerk

Principal