

Daily Update, Tuesday 20 July 2021, 9:30am



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

Dear Parents

Constructing a better future

We are ready to welcome back all our boys to face-to-face teaching on Monday 26 July. In the meantime, we are using the time to improve and expand the facilities of the College.

With an estimated R200 billion in damages incurred through the events of last week as a background, it could be strangely reassuring to arrive at St Charles College at just after 7am and be welcomed by the sound of a concrete mixer turning. We are busy repurposing the Senior School locker room into three new facilities: a purpose-built IT Junction, a new Design and Technology Drawing Studio and a new point of welcome for staff – *The Clocktower Café*. Construction resumed in earnest on Thursday and Friday last week and the progress we see each day does something to restore a semblance of control.

The Sport Zone near the Squash Courts is taking shape with the addition of nine extra covered parking spaces and a soon to be completed terrace of steps and a ramp transitioning from the Coach House lawn towards Old Orchards Field. We've planted trees and laid out pathways and hope to welcome you in the not-too-distant future to some great Saturday sport.

A third project is constructing an extraordinary natural playpark for the Pre-Primary School. Tomorrow I will send out a list of items we need to source from local business. I can say that we are in the market for an old-fashioned hand-operated water pump, and we are also searching for some exceptional large hardwood tree trunks which will serve as the jungle gyms. The three month construction phase will I am sure be a daily show for the scrummies as they watch the landscape nearby being transformed into a unique space that parents will struggle to get their boys to leave behind each day.

As we turn our minds towards building a better future than the one that was burning just a few days ago, I have some tough questions for the highly qualified experts of business, on how we can start involving many more people in the economy that is changing so rapidly. I haven't found anyone who can tell me the answers just yet, but I did find this article which offered the most practical set of suggested actions we can take to stimulate growth and get our local and national economy to join the greater observable recovery of the global economy.

To find some practical advice on how you can spend your money in ways that positively affects the village we live in, I recommend a very down to earth article: '*11 Small Ways You Can Help Stimulate the Economy*'

<https://www.realsimple.com/work-life/money/money-planning/ways-to-stimulate-economy>

Yours faithfully

Allen van Blerk

Principal