

# THE BRITISH SCHOOLS



*Founded 1908*

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Families,

We are coming to the end of the year, and this letter is to inform you that we will be finishing the academic year this Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2020, for both Senior and Junior. This was the original finishing date we announced in February, but which was extended for a few days some months back. We now believe that children being in School three more days next week is not a good idea.

Please let me explain. Everyone is aware of the increasing numbers of COVID-19 positive cases, in both Uruguay and connected with our community. Many of you would be very unaware of how quickly we need to react when we hear of a possible COVID case. These possible cases have increased, and every day we have more cases to manage. We have had very few direct positive cases, but many 'contacts of contacts'. It gets increasingly hard to track these contacts, and to identify who was in contact with who, who needs to quarantine and who does not. This is essential in trying to stop people catching the virus. The number of possible positive cases connected to our community may well increase further, which is why we believe it is better to finish classes now.

The School will teach classes until Friday, and parents will receive letters from Senior and Junior informing them of end of year details such as emptying lockers, taking away personal items, handing in books and other important details. Already, some parents have preferred not to send their children to School, and we respect their decision.

I have talked all year about the need to be responsible, and our community has been responsible. We have managed to complete the academic year successfully, and everyone, teachers, staff, students and parents should feel proud.

I will write again soon, but it is important to get this information to you as soon as possible.

Regards,

Mark Rosevear  
Principal

Estimadas Familias:

Estamos llegando a fin de año y esta carta es para informarles que el año académico finalizará este viernes 11 de diciembre de 2020, tanto para Senior como para Junior. Esta era la fecha original de finalización de cursos anunciada en febrero, la cual se extendió unos días más hace algunos meses. Hoy creemos que no es una buena idea que los alumnos sigan asistiendo al Colegio tres días más la próxima semana.

Permítanme explicarles. Somos todos conscientes del aumento en el número de casos positivos de COVID-19, en Uruguay y conectados a nuestra comunidad. Muchos de ustedes no se imaginan la rapidez de reacción que necesitamos cuando escuchamos de un posible caso de COVID. Estos

casos han aumentado y cada día tenemos más casos para gestionar. Hemos tenido muy pocos casos directos, pero muchos contactos de contacto. Es sumamente difícil de hacer el seguimiento de estos contactos e identificar quién estuvo en contacto con quién, quién necesita hacer cuarentena y quién no. Esto es vital para evitar que la gente se contagie. El número de posibles casos positivos en nuestra comunidad puede seguir aumentando, razón por la cual creemos que es importante finalizar las clases ahora.

El Colegio dictará clases hasta el viernes y los directores de Senior y Junior enviarán cartas a los padres informando de los detalles de fin de año como ser: vaciar los lockers, retirar efectos personales, entregar los libros y otros detalles importantes. Ya hay algunos padres que han optado por no mandar a sus hijos al Colegio, y respetamos dicha decisión.

Durante todo el año he hablado de la necesidad de ser responsables y nuestra comunidad ha sido responsable. Hemos logrado completar el año académico de manera exitosa y todos, docentes, personal, alumnos y padres deben sentirse orgullosos.

Les volveré a escribir en unos días, pero es importante darles esta información lo antes posible.

Atentamente,

Mark Rosevear  
Principal

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