



THORNTREE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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Dear Thorntree family,

Dr Jo Boaler Stanford Professor in Mathematics and author of the Limitless mindset. 'When you struggle with any content or make mistakes, it is here that your brain grows, it is creating a synapse during this learning.' Your approach and your mindset is more important than the knowledge you learn. Which leads me to ask what your mindset has been over the last 52 days of lockdown? Has our approach been the best possible approach and has our mindset been correct. We are always learning, I hope that during this time you have not been the expert with your child but rather the mediator of learning with him or her. I will remember the next time I make a mistake to change my mindset from a negative thought and rather a positive thought, my brain is growing.

Angie Motshekga will be addressing the nation at 10 am tomorrow morning, we hope to have a clear idea of when our children will be back in the classroom then. ISASA is working tirelessly and supporting all heads through this time to ensure Independent schools are acknowledged and given our own model to follow as we are not in the same situation as public schools in South Africa.

When school starts again it will be a little different, masks will be mandatory, social distancing (shorter hours for our school day) and sanitizing will become the new norm. To ensure we are all clear of our expectations, we will put together a video to show your children exactly what the daily routine will be.

We are going to encourage those parents that are able to continue with online at home to do so. Essential workers, workers for both level 4 and 3 we do want your children back in the classroom. Teachers will go through training this week to make sure we are keeping our students and ourselves safe.

I have sent a survey to your child's email address, please make sure you submit it so that we have a good idea of how you are feeling over this time. This should encourage you to explore the new domain for TPS.

Kindest regards,

Helyn Pope
Head, Thorntree Preparatory School
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