



Cambridge Assessment  
International Education

Cambridge International School

*Rundle*

# REVELATIONS

MARCH 2021

PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION; EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE

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SEIZE  
THE  
DAY

PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION; EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE

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# CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

R O N B O O N

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It has been a year since the first COVID-19 case was detected in South Africa. Within a few weeks, schools were shut down and online learning became the new norm for all students. Health became priority number one in most people's lives.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought forth varied challenges, with many students in South Africa and around the world being seriously compromised by the restructured educational offering, or in some instances, sadly a non-offering. Most schools were unable to adapt quickly and offer relevant support and instruction to their students.

Rundle College was fortunately prepared and able to adapt immediately and support our family of students. The reason for this is that Rundle College continues to be at the cutting edge of education, tackling tomorrow's issues today. Since launch in 2013, Rundle College has embraced a series of thought processes that have helped to ensure that our students receive the very best in education.

Three such examples may seem simple in retrospect, but their impact continues to positively influence Rundle College's students.

- As Confucius once said: "I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand."  
It is not just about sitting at a desk in a classroom and trying to remember what the teacher and the book says. It is about experiencing and engaging. It is about using the five senses and touching the hearts and minds of the students involved. It is about reaching the Sixth Sense, the emotional chord and the heart.
- In the younger Grades, rather than focus on traditional, often limited and politically-influenced subject matter, students are exposed to a host of broad-based and interesting subject matter that stimulates the mind and touches the heart. Such subject matter may relate to a core subject (e.g. History), but rather than being mundane and politically correct, it allows for broader knowledge and improved practicality.
- To support our serious young golfers attending KeNako Academy, an online support learning programme was created with a dedicated online teacher to ensure that no matter how much school a student may miss, their education would continue successfully whilst they travelled, without them being compromised.

The results achieved by Rundle College students since launch speak volumes for the foundation and the motivation that has been set at the school. Being aware of a changing world and confronting potential problems before they become a reality is what leaders do.

Many years ago, I made a presentation to a management team in Senegal and in that presentation, which was linked to staying at the cutting edge of business, my point of reference was sand dunes in a desert. Sand dunes are made up of billions of particles of sand. Wind erosion continuously changes the shape, size and location of each sand dune, yet the dune persists and thrives. In time, almost every particle of sand will get to be at the top of the dune, on the cutting edge. Most major sand dunes are found in deserts, but their impact is not confined to the desert. Sand dunes are able to protect inland coastal areas and they contribute to allowing such areas to thrive. Indirectly, a sand dune is able to use the winds of change to sustain itself, to grow in stature and to move forwards into the future.

Rundle College is aware of the continuing winds of change, of the need to adapt as each new dawn brings forth a different set of challenges. Of the need to be brave, to offer bold insights and perspectives, to embrace the latest thinking from across the globe. Cutting edge thought processes will continue to benefit our students and create the leaders and success stories of tomorrow. We will continue to imagine and implement a greater future for our student family, so contributing positively to tomorrow's society.

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# PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

M A R C H   N E W S

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Despite nearly 36% of South Africans in 2020 passing with a bachelor's pass (with exemption), less than 10% of these matriculants will end up going to study at a university. The main reason naturally being the financial burden of studying. Unfortunately, combined with a high drop-out rate across the board after the first year of study, this means that we as a country are producing very few graduates. This drop-out rate is higher for distance learning courses.

One way to put yourself ahead of the competition is by studying what is being called "Micro-credentials", these are also known as digital badges or nanodegrees and are mini qualifications that demonstrate a student's knowledge or skills in a given area.

Some students are studying these mini qualification courses to raise the chances of being offered scholarships or even simply the chance of them being accepted into the universities of their choice. There are numerous institutions that offer these micro-credentials, which, unlike traditional college degrees that require studying a range of different subjects over a multi-year span, are earned through short, targeted education focused on specific skills in particular fields. One advantage is that they tend to be inexpensive and can sometimes even be free. In addition, they are typically taken online and can be done from the privacy of your home.

Rundle College has already had some students take advantage of these micro-credentials. We are also looking at developing micro-credentialing partnerships with third-party learning providers. These courses are not only able to stand alone, but are aimed at giving the student some type of alternative credentialing.

The purpose of a certificated micro-credential or mini qualification is that it provides evidence of a mastery of a particular set of skills. It also distinguishes one candidate from the next and gives you the edge in an interview.

These micro-credential mini qualifications need to be taken at the most appropriate time of the student's schooling. They should not hamper the chance of achieving a particular grade or symbol but rather compliment a report or first time CV. Some of the more popular options available today are as follows:

- Self-Management
- Teamwork
- TESOL
- First Aid
- Customer Service
- Leadership Skills
- Critical Thinking
- Problem Solving
- Technology – A+, N+ etc.
- Customer Service E-mail Etiquette

For more info: <https://www.training.com.au/ed/how-micro-credentials-can-benefit-you/>

**STUART COLESKY**





## CUPCAKES OF HOPE

It all started with a voice note. Cupcakes Of Hope was having a fundraiser by selling cupcakes. Would Rundle College want to place an order? Well, ladies and gents, by the next day we had placed a whopping order of 140 cupcakes. The students and teachers supported this great cause by buying cupcakes for friends and family and by making donations.

Cupcakes of HOPE is a Non-Profit Company and a Public Benefit Organisation that aims to raise awareness surrounding childhood cancer, and assist in raising funds for families in need of medical assistance. Cupcakes Of Hope is a community-driven project that achieves its objectives through the love of baking cupcakes, community participation, and amazing events. Together, we can bake a difference! Thank you to each and every single one of you. What a heartwarming show of generosity and community spirit.

## RUNDLE COLLEGE BLOOD DRIVE

On Tuesday, 2 March, the Rundle College students, teachers, parents and community members came together to support the Western Cape Blood Service. The Western Cape Blood Service parked their caravan in the school parking lot and assisted all who were willing to donate. Thank you to the wonderful staff who are always caring, knowledgeable and ready to assist the donors. Your passion for your job is evident in the way you treat and assist each individual. A special thank you to all the first time donors who overcame their fear of being pricked by a needle.

## 3 TOP 10 IN RIVERSDALE JUNIOR OPEN

3 Rundle College golfers finished Top 10 in a recent Southern Cape Junior Order of Merit tournament! Congratulations to Matthew Bramford, Keegan Shutt and Jaydon Liddell who enjoyed good results in the Riversdale Junior Open played on Sunday, 7 March. Matthew Bramford shot level par 72 to finish tied 2nd. Keegan finished 1 shot behind Matthew in tied 4th place. Jaydon's 2 over par 74 also secured him a top 10 result in T8th place.

## SYLKEN NOVEMBER T11TH IN RIVERSDALE JUNIOR OPEN

Sylken November shot 3 over par 75 to finish tied 11th in the Riversdale Junior Open. Sylken enjoyed the best female result in the Southern Cape Junior Order of Merit tournament beating many of her male competitors. She has been consistently playing well and making good progress. Congratulations on yet another great result, Sylken!



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# MS SHARON PUTTICK

## WRITES AS/A-LEVEL ACCOUNTING BOOK

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In April 2019 Cambridge University Press approached me and asked if I would be interested in authoring an AS/A-Level Accounting book. Cambridge was making changes to the syllabus and the book was outdated and needed some sprucing up. They were also introducing a Workbook for the first time.

The publishing company approached a few different teachers throughout the world for this position and, in order to make their decision regarding who the final candidates would be, they asked all candidates to write a draft chapter based on a given topic.

Even though I have no knowledge or experience in writing books, I decided to take up the challenge of a draft chapter based on the topic 'Depreciation of non-current assets'. My draft chapter had to be submitted by May 2019.

In June 2019 I received a response from the publishing company that I had been selected as the author of the new Workbook they were introducing.

After many Skype meetings with the publishing company, the process all started in September 2019. I was given strict deadlines to adhere to for the submission of each chapter and the process continued until July 2020, as there were 39 chapters to complete. The first submission of chapters was given to the publishing professional, who made suggestions on any changes needed to the chapters which were sent back to me for the changes to be made. Once the publishing professional was happy with the final copies, they were passed on to the project manager who accepted the book on behalf of the publishing company. The project manager passed it on for typesetting, proofs, and copy-editing. Once they had signed off on the chapters, they were sent back to the project manager.

The project manager sent the chapters to Cambridge International (CI) for Cambridge accreditation to take place. CI then returned with all their amendments required which were sent back to me. I once again made the necessary amendments and the chapters were then sent to the proof collator. Right now this is where the book is at in the process. CI will relook at the amendments and, if happy, they will give the book Cambridge Accreditation.

The book will then finally be printed later this year for first sales to take place in August 2021. The new syllabus is effective for examinations in 2023.

It has been a very long and tedious process which was not helped by lockdown and online learning for a few months of last year, but I am so grateful for the opportunity given to me and the experience I have gained from the process. My knowledge of the syllabus has grown immensely and my students can only benefit from this experience.

I cannot wait to see my own AS/A-Level students making use of my book in 2023!

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# PREPARATORY NEWS

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The primary school recently went on an outing to George Adventure Park. Dr Colesky and I paid a visit to the students on the outing. The children were busy on the climbing walls when we arrived. Seeing the fear in some children's eyes as they peered up the 9-metre-high wall before they attempted the challenging task of climbing the wall and then the look of pure satisfaction as they reached the top was absolutely priceless. From the youngest to the oldest (even a few teachers) attempted the wall climb and many overcame fears and some discovered fears. It was wonderful to watch the students cheering each other on and wanting success for each other.

After the turmoil of a year we had last year it was so nice to see the children running around freely, laughing, playing and just being children again.

This sparked a thought for me on how important outside play is for children and how much they learn from being in nature and fresh air. This caused me to do a little research and I found the following on [communityplaythings.com](http://communityplaythings.com):

Outdoor play enables children to enjoy the natural environment and learn to seek out exercise, fresh air, and activity. There is something fundamentally healthy about using the outdoors. Thus outdoor play develops disposition for the outdoors, for physical activity, and for care of the environment.

Children who learn to enjoy the outdoors have a much higher likelihood of becoming adults who enjoy hiking, gardening, jogging, bicycling, mountain climbing, or other outdoor endeavours. This is critical as obesity becomes an ever-greater national concern and as we must all learn to care for and protect the environment. (Dale, Corbin, & Dale, 2000)

Using open space to fulfil basic childhood needs—jumping, running, climbing, swinging, racing, yelling, rolling, hiding, and making a big mess — is what childhood is all about! For a variety of obvious reasons many of these things cannot occur indoors. Yet children must have these important experiences. Today children's lives are more and more contained and controlled by small apartments; high-stakes academic instruction; schedules; tense, tired, and overworked parents; and by fewer opportunities to be children. Outdoor environments fulfil children's basic needs for freedom, adventure, experimentation, risk-taking, and just being children (Greenman, 1993).

Outdoor play is one of the things that characterize childhood. And as Lord Nuffield once said, the best preparation for adulthood is to have a full and enjoyable childhood. Thus childhood must include outdoor play. Children need opportunities to explore, experiment, manipulate, reconfigure, expand, influence, change, marvel, discover, practice, dam up, push their limits, yell, sing, and create. Some of our favourite childhood memories are outdoor activities. This is no accident.

I encourage all students and parents to spend a few minutes each day outside in nature and let your children enjoy the freedom of space. I also encourage all families to take part in the Rundle Fun Run taking place at the Outeniqua Family Market every Saturday morning. There is a 2.5km walk or 5km run route and the proceeds from each event will be donated to a charity in need.

The children and teachers thoroughly enjoyed the outing and being able to be outside of the classroom. Thank you to those parents who helped with transport. We hope to have an outing every term this year to make up for their loss of camp.

*Progressive Education;  
Extraordinary people*

SHARON PUTTICK





# PREPARATORY NEWS

## STRUCTURE & FUNCTION OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

The human digestive system consists of the gastrointestinal tract plus the accessory organs of digestion. The digestive system is a sophisticated machine that absorbs the food you eat and transforms it into energy and nutrients. The Rundle College Grade 6 students learnt about the mechanical and chemical digestion that takes place once food is ingested and, in the process, produced their own models of the main organs that make up the digestive system.



## PARTS OF A FLOWER

The Grade 5 Rundle College students are learning about the different parts of a flower; studying the vegetative and reproductive parts. The students received a beautiful pink lily from Rundle parent Anja Labuschagne to identify the different parts in class during their Biology lesson. Thank you Anja.



## PUZZLE PLAY

Building puzzles is essential in early childhood development. Puzzle play lays the groundwork for the development of mentally transforming shapes. Some of the more important benefits of puzzles include: problem-solving skills, cognitive skills, hand-eye coordination and fine-motor development.



## INNOVATIVE LETTER RECOGNITION ACTIVITY

The Grade R, 1 and 2 Rundle College Foundation Phase students enjoyed a fun sensory activity for letter recognition in which they sprayed their names using foam on the grass outside in the playground.



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