

# Survive the Exam Season & Benefit Financially

Exam season is around the corner, and pupils and parents all over the country are starting to feel the pressure sneak up on them.

The exam period also marks the end of the school year. It is a suitable time to re-evaluate your spending habits over 2017, and to start looking at your budget for 2018. Short-term, you can take advantage of the exam period and cut some expenses during this time. Below are some clever saving ideas for exam season.

# Start your budget for next year's school expenses

The time is perfect to start working on your budget for the next school year. You aren't running around between extramural activities, the children are likely to stay at home studying, and with the 2017 school year behind you, you can evaluate more accurately where you fell short on your budget, and how you can improve in the future. Here are some things to consider:



### **School Supplies**

Keep track of left-over stationery and store the supplies in a safe place till next year.



### **School Uniform**

If it won't fit next year, make a plan to sell it. Every rand helps.



# **School Activities**

Calculate how much money you spent on fuel while driving your children around this year. Think of ideas to lighten the load for yourself and other parents in the next year – a carpool perhaps?

# Limit the number of times you eat out during the exam period

Exam season is the perfect reason not to go out and spend money, because the more time your children are spending behind the books, the better their results could be.

# Put the mobile devices away - or at least limit usage

During exam season, the only screen your children should be focused on is the page of a textbook. With less texting and calling, you could save some money on your phone and data bills.

## Support your children during this stressful time

The exam season is an emotional rollercoaster. It is your responsibility as a parent to support your child in an appropriate manner. Keep a close eye on your child and make sure he/she gets enough sleep to avoid burnout.

Keep in mind that one of the first steps to financial success is being aware of how you're spending your money. If your school budget plans didn't work out as you hoped this year, remember to learn from your shortcomings and implement better solutions next time.

Your Fund would like to wish you and your family all the best during this period. May hard work and dedication reflect in your child's exam results.

### **CONTACT:**

Should you have any questions, contact **Johan Hartzenberg**, the Fund's Principal Officer, on *082 801 3323*; or email <u>jhhartz@outlook.com</u>.

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