



# THE ORYX

*The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School*

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

### ACE @ WIS

Last week in The Oryx I wrote about the new ACE accreditation protocol from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).



**Learning Architecture , Learning Culture , Learning Ecology**

The following day thirty WIS staff volunteered to give up their Saturday and learn more about ACE and they were joined by teachers from Westwood International School in Botswana and the African Leadership Academy in Johannesburg. We were skilfully taken through the new protocol by a representative of NEASC and it became obvious that ACE offers valuable perspectives on our professional practice that go beyond the process of accreditation. Rarely have I seen a body of teachers so excited and energised after a day of professional learning.



It was a day very well spent.

### 2019-2020 Calendar

Please note that the school calendar for 2019-2020 has now been published on the school website.

**Peter MacKenzie**

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### Dates to Remember

#### March 2018

- **23 & 24:** *Romeo & Juliet*
- **30:** *Good Friday - Public Holiday*

#### April 2018

- **02:** *Easter Monday - Public Holiday*
- **25-26:** *Primary Sport Days*



VISIT US ON:



## WEEKLY PUZZLER

In honour of International Pi Day last week the answer to the puzzler was Pi meters. Although Pi has been calculated to more than  $2 \times 10$  to the power 13 digits, even that answer has been rounded or chopped and so not absolutely precise. So the only acceptable answer to the puzzler was the symbol (or the word) Pi itself.

This week let's be a bit more practical and talk about tomatoes. A green grocer received a boxful of tomatoes and on opening the box found that several had gone bad. He then counted them up so that he could make a formal complaint and found that 68 were mouldy, which was 16 per cent of the total contents of the box. How many tomatoes were in the box? As is often the case algebra is your friend here.

Please send solutions, or any fun and interesting puzzlers to [pfarrell@wis.edu.na](mailto:pfarrell@wis.edu.na)



## PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

Next week, the Year 6 classes will be venturing to Out of Nature for a two-night/three-day excursion. The students will be accompanied by Ms Kaye, Ms Lyndsay, Mr Gerson, Mr B, Ms Christalien and me. The purpose of this trip is for team building prior to the upcoming PYP Exhibition. For many of the children, this will be their first time away from home, while others have had experience being away from home. No matter the experience, this trip will be an opportunity for the children to further develop independence and self-confidence.

Since the Exhibition requires collaboration and teamwork, the focus of the three days will be team building. Through participation in the various activities, which the teachers will be leading, the children will use creative thinking to solve problems as a group. These activities, encourage the use of cooperation, communication and social skills, while working towards a common goal or objective. In the process the children will be able to share their own ideas as well as experience the art of compromise and letting go of their own ideas. They will gain practice in learning to respect another person's point of view even if it differs from their own. Of course during the three days they will have fun too.



All of the skills mentioned above will be required for the Exhibition. The students will most likely be working with someone who isn't a friend and perhaps they don't know well. It will be important for the students to communicate and collaborate with one another to meet the requirements and achieve their goals. Hopefully, the trip to Out of Nature and participation in the various activities will help to reinforce for the students what it means to be collaborative and to work as a team.

Regards,  
Beth Smith

## FNCC Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers of students who are taking French Classes at WIS. This is a message from the FNCC. We highly encourage our students to attend these workshops in order to have extra exposure to the French Language:

*"We are starting this coming **Saturday 10th March** with our first workshop of the year.*

*Theme "**Springtime is back**: paper weaving and stained glass techniques"*

*It will take place at the **FNCC**, from **10:00 till 12:00** under the supervision of **Ms Isabelle De Joannis De Verclos**.*



The workshops will be throughout the year themed around events of the french calendar. Your children will be crafting something to bring home every time.

Have a look at the upcoming workshop themes:

- 21st April: **Devient un artiste ! Become an artist! Découverte ludique et originale de la gravure. Fun and original discovery of engraving techniques**
- 19th May: **Les voisins de l'immeuble. The neighbours. La fête des voisins.**
- 9th June: **Chevaliers et princesses. Knives and princesses. Les médiévales de Provins.**
- 7th July: **Un tour de vélo. The famous French cyclist tour. Le tour de France.**
- 11th August: **Les pieds dans le sable. The feet in the sand. La découverte des îles d'outre-mer. Discovering the culture of french Caribbean islands**
- 15th September: **Une photo de moi ! A picture of me! La technique du scrapbooking. Scrapbooking technique**
- 13th October: **Les petits cuistots. Small cooks! La semaine du goût. The week of taste**
- 3rd November: **Les animaux rigolos. Funny animals Technique. De l'origami. Origami techniques**

**Cost: N\$ 60/ child per workshop, payment on arrival.**

In order to adapt the workshop to the age and number of participating children, thank you for letting us know in advance if your child will be participating. It is still possible to enroll last minute as well!

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions, requests or suggestions: Madame Laetitia [lborry@wis.edu.na](mailto:lborry@wis.edu.na) or Tel: 081 834 76 55

## WIS SOCCER TEAM

Below is the list of players selected for the teams which will represent the school in the Liqui Fruit League:

	Name	Age	DOB	Team/age group
1	Thato	7	3 January 2011	Under 7
2	Azmat	6	7 October 2011	Under 7
3	Jo-rell	5	3 May 2012	Under 7
4	Elias	6	12 January 2012	Under 7
5	Puna	5	2 August 2012	Under 7
6	Mike	7	1 February 2011	Under 7
7	Reuben Smit	6	26 April 2011	Under 7
8	Meithan	5	29 March 2012	Under 7
9	Evandro	5	31 August 2012	Under 7
10	Glenda	7	9 December 2010	Under 7
1	Kabelo	7	13 December 2010	Under 8
2	David	5	7 July 2012	Under 8
3	Wetufe	6	13 June 2011	Under 8
4	Tashia	6	24 July 2011	Under 8
5	Luke	6	10 June 2011	Under 8
6	Dino	6	4 July 11	Under 8
7	Carlos	7	28 October 2010	Under 8
1	Jesiah	7	5 January 2011	Under 9
2	Mario	9	3 February 2009	Under 9
3	Bilal	8	22 May 2009	Under 9
4	Aussie	7	29 October 2010	Under 9
5	Guilherme	6	28 April 2011	Under 9
6	Mezerije	8	29 August 2009	Under 9

7	Reuben Jackson-Read	8	28 July 2009	Under 9
1	Frenzy	7	19 October 2010	Under 10
2	Till	9	13 November 2008	Under 10
3	Mathew	9	13 July 2008	Under 10
4	Mark	8	7 June 2009	Under 10
5	Alijah	10	10 February 2008	Under 10
6	Kyle	8	11 November 2009	Under 10
7	Julian	9	21 January 2009	Under 10
8	Anant	8	27 July 2009	Under 10

If your child is not on this list and you would like them to be considered, please contact me at: [tjackson-read@wis.edu.na](mailto:tjackson-read@wis.edu.na) by 15:00 Monday 26 March.

**Coach Tom Jackson-Read**

### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

If you pay monthly, please bear in mind that the final invoice for the 2017 - 2018 school year must be settled before we can release reports, the yearbook and so on. You are respectfully asked to ensure that all outstanding amounts are in the account by Monday, 2nd April 2018.

*Please also note that if any fees or dues are still outstanding from the previous year, no child from that family will be eligible for re-registration for the next academic year.*

### **SCHOOL FEES 2018 - 2019 PAYMENT**

For those who pay monthly, please note that 20% of the annual fee payment should be made before the first day of school - i.e. before Monday 13th August 2018.

This means it must be received by the school by Friday 10th August 2018.

It may be prudent to start planning for this now.

*If you have any questions about this, please contact the Finance Manager, Maryke Coetzee.*

## ***SECONDARY PRINCIPAL***

### **WIS is an inclusive school - What does that mean?**

WIS is proud to be an inclusive school and Namibia's educational system is an inclusive system. But what does it mean to be an inclusive school? What is inclusive education?

According to Richard A. Villa and Jacqueline S. Thousand in their book **Creating an Inclusive School** inclusive education is: ... *about embracing everyone and making a commitment to provide each student in the community, each citizen in a democracy, with the inalienable right to belong. Inclusion assumes that living and learning together benefits everyone, not just children who are labeled as having a difference (e.g., those who are gifted, are non-English proficient, or have a disability).*

At WIS we try to celebrate differences and diversity and we try to accommodate all children in the learning experience, provided that we have the means and capacity to do justice to their needs. Children who do not speak English are supported by our EAL teachers until they are proficient enough to manage in the normal classroom without additional support. Children with other learning needs are assessed by our Learning Support Department and with the guidance of an Optimal Learning Plan, we work together to try to support the child in the classroom.

However, inclusion is an all encompassing situation and needs the commitment and input of all stakeholders in the educational process. We therefore need to be closely in touch with parents and caregivers as well as the student to try to support and assist the student to realise their potential.

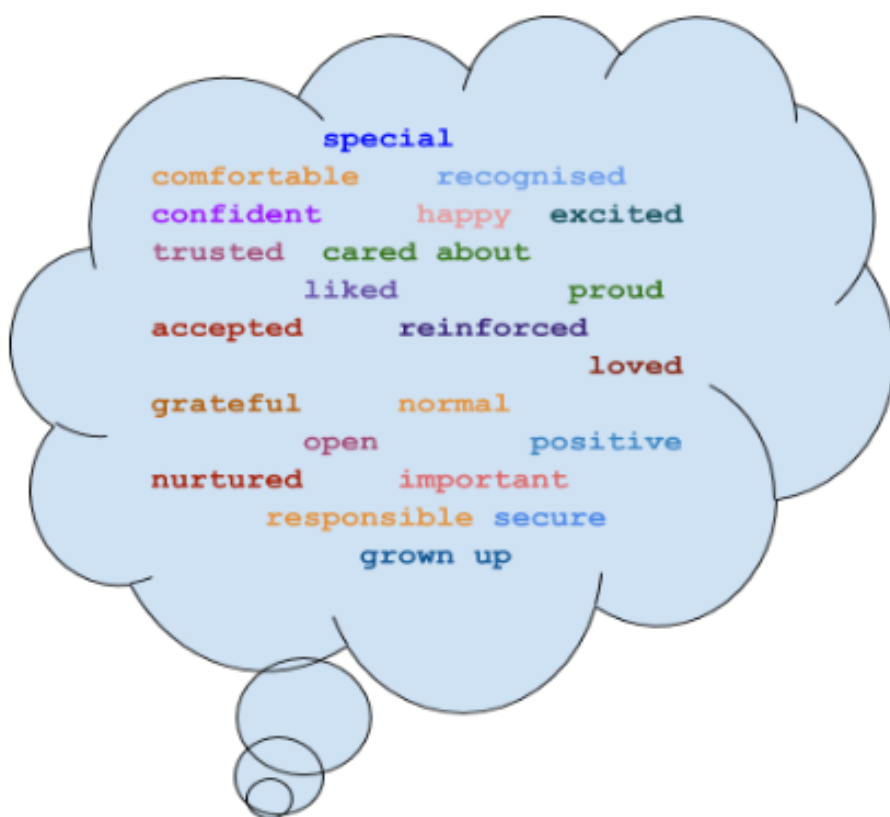
This is by no means an easy and never a straightforward task. Here at WIS, we teachers often discuss ways to try to accommodate each child and maximise each child's learning abilities. What is often a bit of a challenge are expectations from either children or their parents of what is possible. Supporting children to reach their

individual potential does need everyone to be realistic about that potential. It needs us to acknowledge the challenges and opportunities all children have.

To accommodate each child in a classroom of twenty to twenty-five children, the expectation must be that all stakeholders embrace the idea of inclusion and that students, first and foremost and then teachers and parents work to include everyone. The big task, however, is on the student him/herself and his/her parents to be open to support, to work with supporting teachers and to be able to work to the best of their ability.

For some interesting read on this topic, you might want to look at the following article:  
**Creating an inclusive school** <http://www.ascd.org/publications/books/105019/chapters/What-Is-an-Inclusive-School%2%A2.aspx>

The most important aspect of successful inclusion is when students feel:



Regards,  
Maggie Reiff



## International Day of Happiness @ WIS

20 March 2018



The school's Social Committee decided to celebrate International Day of Happiness by involving the whole school. Students were asked to dress in yellow and black and the staff had to wear red. Everyone was arranged on the field to display a smiley emoji - Liam Strydom was kind to take the photo with his drone for us.

Each member of the school received a milk ice-lolly after the photo was taken, which was sponsored by the Social Committee. Together with this initiative, we asked the WIS community to purchase a smile sticker for N\$10.00 each. The school raised **N\$4,100.00** which will be handed over to the Cancer Association.

Thank you all for making happiness day happy and for raising the funds for a very valuable cause!

**Angie Janse van Rensburg**

## New Year 10 Peer



The Year 10 Peer Counsellors-in-training celebrated the end of the Personal Growth part of their training earlier this week. At the start of the next academic year they will be called upon to offer emotional support to their peers while helping new students to WIS, including the new Year 7 students, to settle in.





Sharon Gorelick

**ROMEO AND JULIET**  
STARRING AT  
WINDHOEK  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL  
IN THE AUDITORIUM  
23RD/ 24TH OF  
MARCH 2018  
AT 6PM

**TICKET  
PRICES:**

**COST  
ADULTS:  
N\$50**

**COST  
CHILDREN  
KGI-YEAR6:  
N\$30**

**Fundraiser**  
**BAKE SALE**

Proceeds will benefit  
**Children's Camp Namibia**

Give the children a place where they can play and learn at the same time, affording them the opportunity to just be children.

**Thursday, March 29**

Help Support a Great Cause

**PIZZA, KFC , ICE CREAM & MORE.**  
**2 RAFFLE BASKETS FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS/PARENTS!**

Raffle tickets available Tuesday the 13 of March sold exclusively by group members

By: Elizabeth, Fausto, Gérsia Martin and Samuel