



THE ORYX

The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The PTA

The school year is drawing to a close. We are, sadly, starting to say our goodbyes. Such an event will be later this afternoon at the PTA Centre when we will thank everyone for their tireless efforts this year and in particular recognise the extraordinary contributions of two people who have been PTA stalwarts but who are leaving the school and, indeed, the country this month.

Sandra Camilo-Giroud (Chair) and **Janet Roscoe** (Secretary) have led from the front, ever-present (whatever the event), impressively organised, always willing, always committed and, best of all, always cheerful, always positive. It has been an unalloyed pleasure working with them for the past two years.

WIS is fortunate to have such an active and generous PTA. Sometimes very visibly but often behind the scenes, its members support the school in so many ways and I cannot say often enough how grateful we are.



So, thank you to Sandra and Janet and all those who have given of their time and efforts this year. To those who are moving on, we wish you every joy and success in the future.

Peter MacKenzie

PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

June 3 marks the 20th anniversary of WIS becoming authorised to offer the Primary Years Programme. We are proud to be one of the early adopters of the PYP, which now is offered in more than 1,472 schools in over 109 countries around the world. It seems fitting that the Year 6 PYP Exhibition Opening is taking place on Monday.



The IB introduced the Primary Years Programme in 1997 and just a year later, WIS became an IB World School. The PYP has grown and developed since its inception, as has the programme itself at WIS. Having been introduced myself to the PYP in 1999, I have seen how the PYP has evolved over the years and I have witnessed first hand how students in an IB World School are different, in a positive way, from those in other schools. Based on my experience, as well as conversations with teachers and parents, students who attend IB schools:

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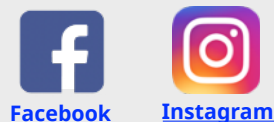
Dates to Remember

June 2018

- **04:** Year 6 Exhibition
- **05-06:** Year 6 Exhibition - Open to the community
- **08:** Primary - Last day of Afternoon Activities
- **11:** Internal Exams Start
- **20:** Term 4 Ends - Last day of Academic year



VISIT US ON:



WEEKLY PUZZLER

Thank you to everyone for supporting our Weekly Puzzler.

Due to the Secondary Exams starting soon, this will be our farewell letter until the new Year 2018-2019!

Hope you enjoyed this as much as we did!

REMEMBER to keep your brain sharp this holiday and do some Mathematical puzzlers in-between the holiday fun!

Thank you and good luck to all the exam takers!

The Maths Department!



- are more confident
- learn how to learn
- take responsibility for their own learning
- think critically
- ask questions



One of the aspects of the IB programmes that I value is the Learner Profile. The Learner Profile is the IB's mission in action. *The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognising their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world. (International Baccalaureate Organisation 2013)* The ten attributes that comprise the Learner Profile (*Inquirer, Knowledgeable, Thinker, Communicator, Principled, Open-Minded, Caring, Risk-Taker, Balanced, Reflective*) provide a common vocabulary for everyone in the school community. The Learner Profile is not just for students. I believe it's important for the adults to model the Learner Profile in action.

For the last eight weeks, the Year 6 students have had the opportunity to put the Learner Profile into action as they have worked collaboratively to plan, inquire and research about their chosen topic. I hope you will make time to visit the Exhibition next week where you will see for yourself students who have taken responsibility for their own learning; have asked questions and thought critically; who are confident and who have learned how to learn.

We are proud to be part of the students' learning journey to become independent and inquiring learners.

Regards,
Beth Smith

PYP EXHIBITION



What's up with the Year 6 PYP Exhibition? The Exhibition logo was designed by Nijia Yang, Year 6A. Congratulations on creating a fabulous design.

Since March this year the students have been going through the exhibition process and are now coming to the end of this journey.

Based on the transdisciplinary theme: "How We Express Ourselves", students pitched their passion. From here they formed their concept inquiry groups based on similar passions and ideas. Throughout the process the students have been required to incorporate the essential elements of the PYP:

Knowledge, concepts, skills, attitudes and action.

They have had to:

- Collaborate
- Ask difficult conceptual questions
- Put themselves out there into the wider community and speak to varying experts - interview
- Survey and research via a variety of sources and tools
- Volunteer their time to take action to help others
- Or raise awareness of their message.

They have had to:

- Think outside of the box
- Develop a Central idea that is enduring and relevant in a real world setting
- Define lines of inquiry to investigate
- Ask good questions
- Justify their thinking
- Use a range of skills to help them communicate with others
- Manage their time effectively
- Cite their research and information
- Work on incorporating and modelling the Learner profile traits and attitudes
- Develop new understandings and knowledge, develop ways to work with the groups/mentors and teachers effectively.

They have had to:

- Take ownership of this project
- Work independently from adult help
- They have tapped into their creativity and planned and implemented a way to exhibit all this over a three day period for the WIS community to witness next week.

This is quite a feat for 10-11 year-olds at the culmination of the Primary Years Programme and, despite the hard work and tension it may have created, one we as a WIS community can be proud of.

With a sense of self-achievement, nervous trepidation and pride from all parties: *students, parents, exhibition teachers and mentors*, we have come to the point of sharing the results of this process with the wider WIS community.

This week sees our concept exhibition groups pulling their projects together. We invite all stakeholders of the WIS community to come and enjoy, appreciate our exhibition and hopefully walk away feeling inspired, feeling like new knowledge has been gained, appreciating our WIS students and the way they learn, share that learning and hopefully have impact on the world around us as young international minded citizens.

You are invited: parents, teachers, students feel free to pop in and be part of this exhibition experience.

Thank you again to Ms Kaye, Ms Lyndsay and Mr Gerson, for all the hard work and support you have given whilst facilitating this process. Wishing Year 6 students all the best.

Year 6 PYP Exhibition 2017 -2018



When: Tuesday 5 June and Wednesday 6 June 2018

Time: 08:05 till 11:40 on both days.

Where : W.I.S P.E Hall

Avril van Zyl, PYP Coordinator

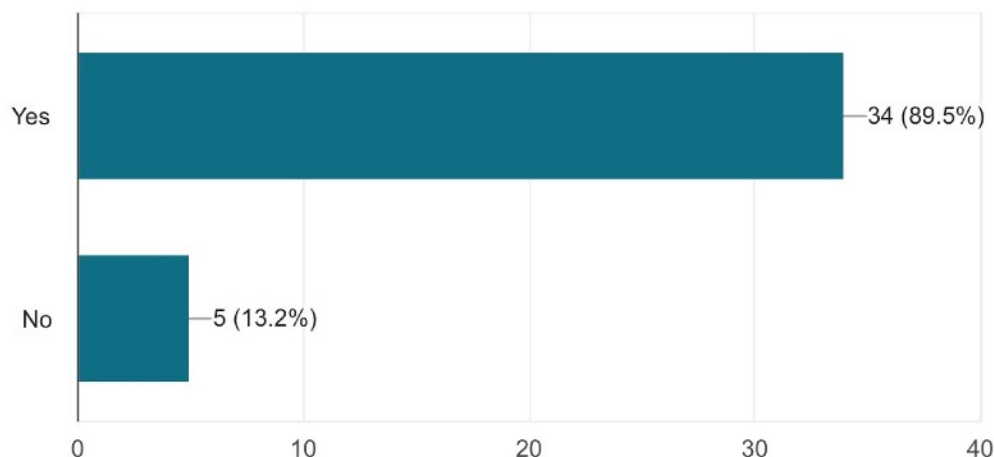
Quality People Always Stand For Equality

Year 6 students at Windhoek International School engage in personal inquiries once a year. Our focus was on *Gender Equality*. We asked, what is gender equality? How is it changing? How are women and men paid differently? How do we stop gender inequality? What does gender equality look like in other cultures? We learned that gender equality is equal and fair treatment between men and women. Here is what we believe: *Expressing ideas and feelings about gender equality, allows the individuals to ensure it.*

Just because inequality is not happening around you does not mean it is not happening. Most communities usually don't care about gender equality because they have not experienced bad treatment from their parents because they are female, they did not get bad education because they are girls, they did not earn different pay because they are women. People said women are just machines for having children, helping men organise their homes and raise children, but why? Women's hands could also hold folders of agreements between companies. "Women are not choosing to be identify as feminist." Why are women told to not work? Why can't women get in touch with social life? They like to work, they enjoy working. The first building plan for women's rights in Australia, ended because of the 2nd World War, but after the 2nd World War, women are told to work, they liked to work and be social. You can see how much they love working, not only organising the homes and raising kids. Likewise, that does not mean women cannot organise homes if they want, it just means women could work if they want. "If not you, who? If not now, when?"-Emma Watson

Do you think there's still salary difference between women and men?

38 responses



This is a survey question that middle school students at Windhoek International School took as part of our research.

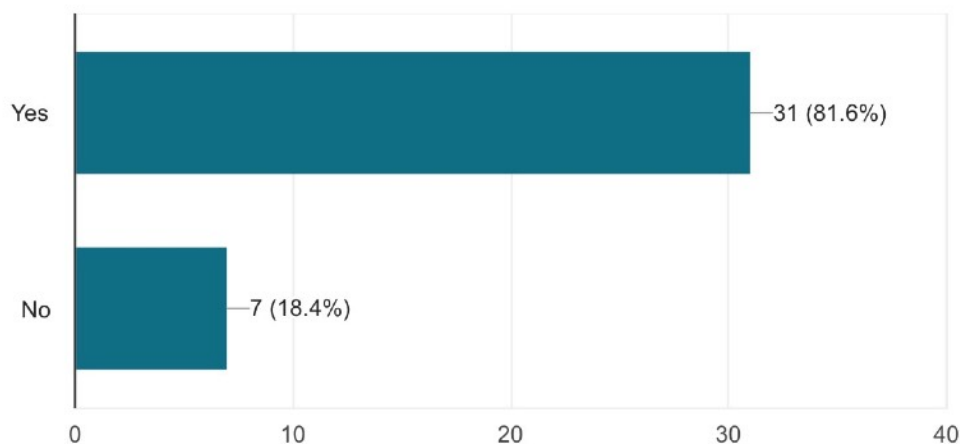
Our research shows that gender equality means being equal with the other gender. Here are some examples:

- Women and men getting the same amount of money.
- Not only are women dealing with gender inequality it's sometimes also men.
- Gender equality is fairness with the other gender.
- No gender should be treated differently.

You might not have experienced gender inequality, but it is happening here in Namibia and we need to change that. In Namibia gender equality has changed more than before. Ensuring gender equality could lead to balance between men and women. We can start by changing gender inequality. We could add girl sport teams in school (if they don't have) women should get the same amount as men because they both work the same job. If we can change gender inequality we can make a difference.

Do you think gender equality changed over time?

38 responses



This is a survey question that middle school students at Windhoek International School took as part of our research.

Here are some countries that rank high on the gender equality list. Namibia ranks number 11 because they have a lot of women in parliament. Norway ranks number 3 because they are teaching their children about gender equality to be aware. Saudi Arabia is ruled by men, women will only be allowed to drive in June 2018.

The world is not just for men, it's for all genders men and women. So, how can we stop gender inequality? We can start a club all about gender equality and how we can help people stop gender inequality. We could also send out a word about it and people can donate or help people in gender inequality. Or we could use social media to spread the words and ideas which can easily be done. We can start a petition for people to sign all around the world not just in Namibia, or ask people to join your club to stop gender inequality.

We think, gender equality means there is no difference between male and female, we are all people and we should be treated equal. Men should not be treated differently than the women. We think gender equality is a human issue, it's not only for women. We believe that we are going to change gender inequality if we work together as one and spread the message. We should change the view of gender equality and inequality. We have the opportunity to change the situation that we don't like, to a situation that we all are part of.

Please fill in our survey: [Gender Equality survey](#)

*By Nijja, Tristan, Maedot and Evie
Year 6 PYP students*

Words of wisdom from Year 2A!

We watched the video about Ruby Bridges and from our discussions thereafter, these are some incredible thoughts that the 6-7 year olds shared. There is something for all of us in these innocent opinions. I am so proud of my students!



- **Kahilu** - You don't need to change yourself because you are perfect the way you are and if someone doesn't like you then someone else will.
- **Jean** - It doesn't matter what colour you are because together we can make a difference and it doesn't matter where you are. When we got brown fathers and mothers and it doesn't matter which country you are born from, it doesn't matter.
- **Mosa** - People should not treat you differently because if people treat you differently then some kids will learn good stuff and some kids will learn bad stuff. If you are learning something new and nothing is different, you don't need to change yourself even though people don't want to play with you.
- **Yael** - It doesn't matter what colour you are - peach or brown...a peach person and a brown person can still be friends. It doesn't matter what colour you are if you are peach or brown you must not be treated differently.
- **Vivian** - If you are a different colour you don't need to change yourself because you can make friends with them...you don't need to be the same colour as your friends.
- **Glenda** - People live in different countries from different countries. If you are smaller then someone's mom can be different from you and the kid can be different because they come from a different country.
- **Zena** - You should not be treated differently because if you are treated differently. If whites are in a different country and blacks are in different country then it's not good. Black or brown together we make a perfect team. They do not need to be away from each other
- **Thato** - Even if you are not the same colour that does not mean you do not have to be friends because of your colour, because you were born that way!

Ms. Veena Nambiar

WIS Football

U9 Win against Falcons in the LFL League

We are very happy to share some great news of our U9 Football Team.



A historic and well earned win against Falcons yesterday evening showed how much progress our players have made in recent weeks and months. Well done team for your persistent efforts and dedication.

Thomas Jackson-Read

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES END DATES:
SECONDARY - last day 1 June 2018
PRIMARY - last day 8 June 2018

SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

A few matters to mention

Reports - reports for Years 9, 10 and 12 have been **sent to parents on Wednesday**. Reports for **Years 7 & 8** will be sent to families on **13th June**. It is important to take some time to go through the comments. A lot of thought and effort goes into writing these reports. As you will have noticed, we have again assessed the **ATL skills**. There is, however, also a comment on the student's performance and an achievement grade. Normally the ATL skills and the achievement do complement each other. If, however, the ATL skills are assessed as R (Rarely) or S (Sometimes) it might be prudent to discuss this with your child and look into ways of improving these skills in the future.

It is also important to note that, with the higher grades, it is increasingly important that **students' work attitude and organisation** are conducive to their performing to the best of their ability. We will have been in touch with you through the year if we have concerns in this regard. Good performance is mostly not achieved with increased tutoring outside of school but with commitment and hard work during school hours and in the afternoons when doing homework.

At the end of the academic year, students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 will receive a **final transcript** which will indicate the student's grades for the first semester, the second semester and the examination. The Year 7s will

not receive a final transcript, since their reports from the first and the second semester include all information pertaining to their year's work.

Grades next year - this is also an opportunity to remind you that we will no longer have "Years" next year but classes will be "Grades" - i.e. Year 7 this year will be Grade 7 next year.

End of year matters - The **internal examinations** start for Year 12 on the 8th, and for Years 9 and 10 on 11th June. The Year 8s will start their examinations on 13th June. Year 7s will not write exams.

The exams finish on 19th June. The 20th June is the last school day for students. **School closes at 11:30 for students.** During the day, there will be a homeroom session to celebrate the end of the year and to say goodbye to leaving students. Then there will be an **assembly** from 10:30 until 11:30. Parents are welcome to attend the assembly. Students are also required to hand in their textbooks and all school materials on 20th June to their respective subject teachers and have their **exit slips** signed. **Final transcripts** will not be sent unless all school materials have been returned and signed for and all monies owed to the school have been paid.

Maggie Reiff
Secondary Principal

Africa Day Lantern Display

All Middle School classes researched lantern festivals around the world, collected information about Africa Day and African Patterns and then designed and made their lanterns from plastic bottles thus contributing to 'Waste-free month of May'. You were able to view these lanterns on Monday. If all goes well we would like to make this a bigger event next year.

Africa Day Lantern Exhibit

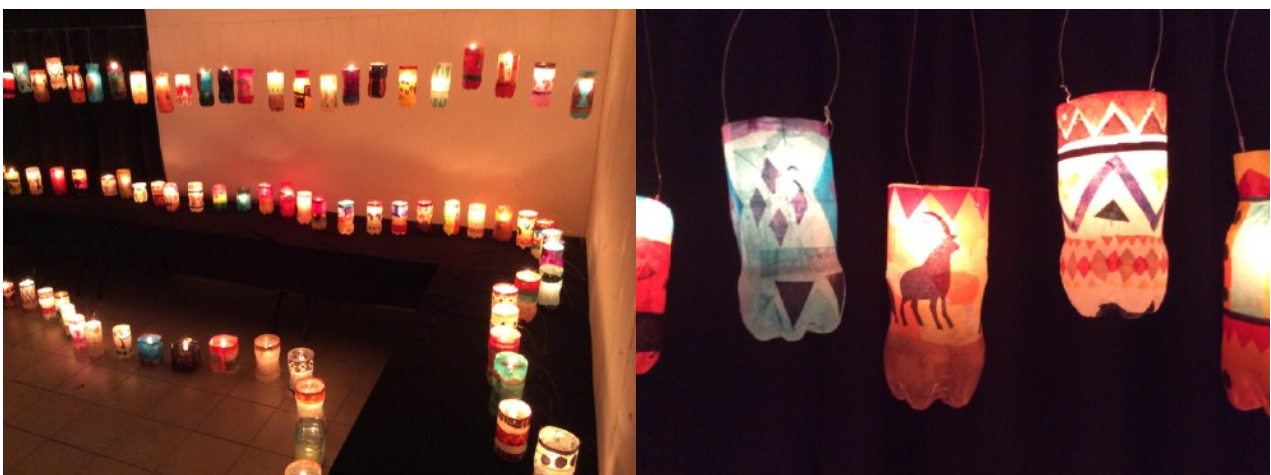
On Monday, May 28th an exhibit was held to showcase the African Day Lanterns that the Middle School students had created in their Art class.

Students in Year 7 and 8 viewed the lanterns in their English classes and wrote a Narrative piece of writing, inspired by these lanterns.

The red in the sky shows the bravery of the people of Africa.

Everything blended together shows the culture, beliefs, spiritual connections and showed to me that we are one nation living together in peace and harmony.

Written by: Zahra Ayoub 7B



Lanterns are a beautiful light source that has captured many, but there is one lantern that I see is brighter than the rest in the lanterns middle school made. It almost tells a story to a person and each one contrasting from one another. Some could say it's just a horizon, some my refer it to Black Panther and the purple spiritual world where all the mighty leaders were. But to me it explains the way our continent has grown economically, in security, in peace and unity. It shows the path our continent had to follow to get to where it is today. From the black at the bottom that could represent the time of slavery or to the people that fought for what they thought was right for their country, to the purple in the middle that could be when we slowly started to realise that we need to start thinking more strategically and being more aware of how our world was/is developing, to the orange at the top almost looking like the light at the end of the tunnel showing the progress we have made as Africans, but also expressing the bright futures ahead of us that a must be ready to build. These lanterns has given me hope to always try and be like Africa; strong, independent and elegant.

Written by : Sarah Tibazarwa 7B

Lost Traveller

It's been almost a month that I have been trapped in the desert. With the plants and animals I managed to survive. Though I know that it won't be long before I perish, so I need to get out of here fast. But deep inside me knows that it will be miracle for me to get out of the desert alive. I came here to travel with a group, while we are touring I went for a bathroom break, just for some privacy I went a bit far.

After I finished my body requirements I soon got distracted by a lizard that's beside me. By the time I realised that lizard was gone I can't remember the way I came from, nor do I hear any engine sound. I tried to look for my group, but all it did is to get me lost in the deeper desert. 'It has been a month. It's not long before this is it.' I kept reminding myself that. I don't want my life just end the way it is. I want to see him, at least one more time. "Hey! Do you know that there is a star that had the same name as me." His words still echoes around my ear. This will just be a small reminder, just in case I forget about him when I 'sleep'. Star of David, well these rocks should be enough to build one. Surprisingly it didn't take a long time. Why did I just feel so tired, probably just all that building. "Good night, David." If I can, see you next time.



Right after the eyes was closed sound of engine came roaring in the distance. Though the traveller can hear it no more.

Written by : Yilin Chen 8B

The Black goat

Long long ago there was a small village called Mukwakwena nowadays known as Windhoek. Mukwakwena was ruled by a chief called Ngongobalakwana. Ngongobalakwana was known across the land for discovering the black goat. When Ngongobalakwana was just a boy he didn't like to get dirty like the other boys or play in the bushes. He liked studying animals and he was quite good at it too, he knew every animal that was within a 100 km.

One day Ngongobalakwana was heading north to see the warthogs , one of his very first discoveries. When he was heading back it was around sunset. That is when he saw a huge black animal with maleficent horns. He took it in, fed it and introduced the village to it. He decided to name it the Black goat. From that day the Black goats have been helping and protecting us. To this day whenever someone ask us who we are and where we're from, we proudly say: "ALL HAIL NGONGOBALAKWANA FOUNDER OF THE BLACK GOAT AND LEADER OF THE VILLAGE MUKWAKWENA!"

Written by India Kay 8B

CAS Art

The Community Action Service **CAS** component forms an integral aspect of the IBDP programme followed by our Y12 and Y13 students (*soon to be Grade 11 and 12 from August 2018*).



Stella and Marcia have taken the initiative of putting their well developed Art skills into action with a community Art project. The girls were tasked with faithfully replicating a sponsors logo at the Cazadores Inline Hockey Rink, the sports club is based at DHPS school.

Our friends at DHPS were very impressed with the diligence and talent shown by our students. Good job Marcia and Stella.

Thomas Jackson-Read

!THANK YOU!

Thank you to the PTA who has sponsored three Golf Shirts and three Hoodies to the Middle School Coaches for usage in sport events.

Africa Cup for Inline Hockey

WIS student, Henrik Diekmann, Namibia Junior National Team, Africa Cup 2018.

The Africa Cup for Inline Hockey took place from 22nd to 26th May 2018. Henrik, a Year 10 WIS student, participated in this prestigious and unique event as part of the Namibian Junior National Team. Henrik and his team were well prepared by coaches Brian Robbins and Brian Sobel over the last couple of months in various training camps

They did very well by only losing two matches in the first round to reach the final stages.

They ended in fourth place overall which is an excellent achievement by the young Namibians. They competed against their Senior team as well as other teams who had highly respected international players.



New Staff Member

Eugene Blaauw

We are very pleased to welcome to the school Eugene Blaauw who joins us in the new position of Workshop Manager. He will be working closely with Carol Heimstädt to ensure that the school operates efficiently and safely. You'll see him around. Say hello!



The aim of the holiday programme is to provide the children with a safe and fun environment during the school holiday that keeps them stimulated and happy. The holiday program is a private venture and the school is not liable or responsible.

Please contact me for more information! Phone: 0813164298 or Email: amf@iway.na

MISS SONANDRE'S HOLIDAY Programme

now open for
registration

29 JUNE - 31 JULY (MON - FRI)

**FUN LEARNING
NEW EXPERIENCES &
LOTS OF ACTIVITIES**

07:30 TILL 17:30
**JOYFUL NOISE, IFUN, MOVIES,
ZOO, BAKING, COOKING, ART,
SPORTS, READING, FINE & GROSS
MOTOR ACTIVITIES AND MANY
MORE.**

**LIMITED SPACE
AVAILABLE**

**CONTACT SONANDRE FOR MORE
INFO.**
081-31 64298

PosterMyWall.com



KIDS CAMP

Venue: 109 Tunschell St,
Pioneers Park
07:00-14:00

FOUR WEEKS OF HOLIDAY FUN!

25th June - 20th July

Contact: Avril +264 812239645 (Spaces are limited)

Activities that are geared towards creativity, problem solving, innovation and critical thinking.

- Makerspace - maths, technology, solving, inventing
- Creative Arts - painting, collage, modelling, construction
- Cooking - cooking fun every week
- Green garden fun - exploring and creating in nature
- Creative language arts - writing, reading, self expression
- Meditation, yoga and dance

Cost per day:
N\$100 per child.
Bring your own lunch. Snacks & drinks provided.

