

# THE ORYX

*The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School*



## WE NEED YOU



### FROM THE DIRECTOR

#### WE NEED YOU!

Last week you should have received an important message from Raniero Leto, the Chair of the Board of Directors. If you didn't, everything is on D6 under RESOURCES > ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

"Everything" is several documents amounting to a few thousand words but the bottom line is actually very simple.

In order to comply with the Companies Act, the school is required to have a "Memorandum of Association" and "Articles of Association". The current documents are old and out of date so the Board has drafted a new set that are comprehensive and accurate.

But in order to adopt these documents, we need parents (YOU!) to approve them. Formal adoption will be at a meeting at school on Wednesday 16th March at 6pm but, if you cannot attend the meeting, you can vote now.

#### **Please do!**

Ballot papers are available in the School Office between 7am and 3.30pm.

If you have any questions, please ask me or any of the ten Board members.

With best wishes  
**Peter MacKenzie**

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### Dates to Remember

#### February

- 23: Lower Primary Sports Day
- 24: Upper Primary Sports Day
- 25: Secondary Sports Day
- 29: Year 8 Field Trip

#### March

- 1 - 10: Year 8 Field Trip
- 11: CAS Assembly

## Teacher Feature

**Carin Vogelaar:**  
Learning Support Coordinator



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to everyone involved with WIS. My name is Carin Vogelaar and I recently arrived in Namibia from Amsterdam, the Netherlands. I started working at the Learning Support Department on the 15th of February and I've received a wonderful welcome and am very happy to be here.

I have a background as a psychologist and teacher (English and Dutch as a foreign language) and graduated in Special Educational Needs last June. In learning support I can combine my interests and experience in psychology/counseling and teaching, and for me it's the perfect fit.

The last four years I've been working as a learning support teacher for one day a week, next to my teaching job.

**Continues on page 3**

## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS

Please be advised that from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016 the school will charge interest on overdue fees. The rate will be 10% p.a. charged on a monthly basis.

## PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

This week's Early Close allowed both homeroom teachers and specialists to have quality and quantity time to meet together and plan for upcoming units of inquiry. This time was appreciated and valuable as it will ultimately benefit the students and their learning in their upcoming units of inquiry.

Congratulations to the Year 5 and 6 classes on their end of unit presentations. The Year 5 exhibition tapped into the students' creativity in showing their understanding of the theme, Where We Are in Place and Time. The students developed their own cities and showed how cities change over time. The Year 6 classes held a mini Science Fair where they were able to demonstrate their understanding of the theme How the World Works through their projects about renewable energy and eco-friendly ways to conserve energy at home and school.

Sunday is International Mother Language Day. Did you know that there are approximately 7,000 languages spoken in the world? According to the United Nations, of these 7,000, more than 50 per cent are likely to die out within a few generations. Fewer than a hundred languages are used in the digital world. The UN established International Mother Language Day in February 2000 with the purpose of promoting linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism. In recognition of International Mother Language Day, many of the classes spent some time this week learning words in the various languages of the children in the class. The weekly assembly featured some familiar songs in different languages, as well as counting and greetings in some of the languages of the children in the class.

I hope you will be able to attend your child's sports day next week. It promises to be a fun day for all. Children should wear their house color t-shirts for their respective sports day. As a reminder, the sports days begin at 7:45. Toddlers -Year 2 will have their sports day on Tuesday, Years 3-6 have their sports day on Wednesday.

Kind regards,  
**Beth Smith**

## French Year 3 students

In French and in connection with the Unit of Inquiry the year 3 students are focusing on Communication.

We started an e-mail and postcards exchange with students in a Primary school. This school is located in the Southwest part of France, in a wonderful small village: Aussillon (Mazamet) not far from the very well

**Teacher Feature continued**

As it's very difficult to find full-time employment in learning support in the Netherlands, I decided to look abroad!

I love to travel and the idea of working and living in a foreign country for a longer period of time really appealed to me. As I haven't been to Southern Africa before, I'm now also very much looking forward to getting to know Namibia and its neighboring countries, and seeing all the wildlife and amazing sites.

Even though I've lived in the Netherlands for most of my life, I was actually born in the US (California) and still carry an American passport, next to my Dutch. My family originates from and resides in different countries, so I do kind of have an international background.

In my free time I like to travel, hike, read, do yoga, swim or go to the gym and spend time with friends and family. I also really like to enjoy the sunny weather after having spent so much time in the Dutch rain!

I am looking forward to my time at WIS and in Namibia and will hopefully get to know everybody personally soon.

known city of Toulouse . The name of the school is "Ecole les Auques".

The aim of this exchange is for the Year 3 students:

- To meet and communicate with new children who speak in a different language, and having a different culture and living in a total different environment compared to our WIS kids.
- To realise that technology (internet, Skype) allows us to communicate instantly with people living very far away from us, in comparison with traditional postcards.
- Technology makes the communication easier between people.
- To learn how to fill in a postcard and to introduce ourselves in a writing way and describe briefly our environment inside and outside the school.

We are working in collaboration with Mr D, our ICT teacher; the Year 3 students will complete their class blog related to this Namibian/French exchange and will experience Skyping sessions with the children in France.



Parents are invited to visit the following website: [Aussillonvillage.fr](http://Aussillonvillage.fr) and to explore more about the students achievement and enjoy more pictures on Madame Laetitia's [blog](#) (french section).

**Laetitia Borroni**



## Year 2

Celebrating Valentines Day



## WHY THE LEARNER PROFILE IS THE BEST

*By Mark Lintuange Murungi - Year 6A*

Have you ever heard of the IB Learner profile? Well I hope this article will describe what it is and why the learner profile is the best. There are 10 attributes in the learner profile: Caring, Balanced, Reflective, Thinker, Open-minded, Inquirer, Knowledgeable, Principled, Risk-taker and Communicator.

**Caring:** when you are caring, you are basically being kind, helpful and selfless. If someone gets hurt and you go and help them, then you are being caring. Don't expect people to call you caring if you just stand there and do nothing.

**Balanced:** when you are balanced, you are making both parts of your life even. For example if you are doing school work but not having fun also then you are not being balanced. The same happens the other way round, that if you are having too much fun and not doing enough school work, then you are still not balanced. Try to have a balance between fun and responsibilities.

**Reflective:** when you are reflective, you are thinking about the past to try and improve what you are doing. For example, if you have got 56% in your maths test and you have another one coming up, you go back and look at your mistakes and try to get a better score in your next test. By doing that, you are being reflective but if you don't think about your strengths and weaknesses, then you are not being reflective.



## Saturday Morning Dodge-ball Club with Mr Jackson-Read

NEW TIME: 9 AM until 11 AM

Y3 - Y6

All Welcome: Please bring a drink, sports clothes and lots of energy!

Session will be on on the following days

- Saturday 27th February
- Saturday 19th February

## WIS MERCHANDISE

The PTA will be selling hats, shirts etc on Thursdays from 13:00 - 13:45 @ the PTA HUT!

Sport day is coming up, please get your house-team shirt.

Primary school will have a number of sporting events coming up for our students during the last semester of the school year.

Please take note of the following dates:

- March - April Small Schools 7 a side Soccer League u/9, u/11, u/13 (Schedule still to be decide between participating schools)
- u/12: Boys Field Hockey (Awaiting schedule from league administrators)

More information will be shared with the WIS community closer to the time.

**Thinker:** when you are a thinker, you are using problem solving skills and you think for yourself. It's when you don't always go and ask people to help if you can't figure out a problem on your own.

**Open-minded:** when you are a open-minded, you don't care if you and someone else are different. Being caring also links with being open-minded because there are racist people in the world and they are not open-minded because they only care about differences instead of accepting everyone for who they are.

**Inquirer:** when you are an inquirer, you are not afraid to learn new things and you are excited to learn new things. For example, if you don't know algebra and the teacher says we are going to learn about it and you say "I am excited to learn about it, I want to find out everything i can about this topic!" you are being an inquirer.

**Knowledgeable:** when you are knowledgeable, you work a lot and you know a lot of things and if the teacher asks you a question and you can answer it correctly or explain how something works, that is being knowledgeable. Being able to speak different languages is also being knowledgeable.

**Principled:** when you are principled, you are always being honest and showing respect. It is linked closely with having integrity because of being honest, so if the teacher asks you: "Did you do your homework?" and you say no when you didn't, then that is being principled.

**Risk-taker:** when you are a risk-taker, you are not afraid to do new things like going through monkey bars or learning about chemistry. It's when you are not afraid to try.

**Communicator:** when you're a communicator, you can talk a lot and answer verbal questions with long sentences. You are also a good communicator if you are able to increase your vocabulary.

If you go to a school that does not have the IB learner profile, then I highly suggest you go propose this to your Principal because it could help your school. It teaches kids to not care about differences but instead to accept people for who they are.

In conclusion, the IB learner profile can really help you and your school because it teaches you skills for the future which you will really need to be a good human being.

### Works Cited

"The IB Learner Profile." *The IB Learner Profile*. Web. 15 Feb. 2016.  
 "What Is the Learner Profile?" *What Is IB?* Web. 15 Feb.2016

## Year 1

Exploring with rhythmic patterns on percussion.



## SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

This has been a busy week in Secondary School. Thank you to all parents and students who attended the information sessions for IGCSE and the IBDP. Thank you also to all the teachers who prepared little introductions to their specific subjects. I am confident that these information sessions have contributed to a clearer understanding of our subject offerings in IGCSE and the IBDP.

Here are the contact details of the speakers yesterday if you want to get in touch with them directly:

- Chris Payne - University of British Columbia (Canada): [chris.payne@ubc.ca](mailto:chris.payne@ubc.ca)
- Emmanuelle Haudenbourg - French Embassy: [emmanuelle.haudenbourg@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:emmanuelle.haudenbourg@diplomatie.gouv.fr)
- Roadine Willemse - Kaplan Colleges: [niro@iway.na](mailto:niro@iway.na)

Please remember to return the completed subject forms for IGCSE and IBDP to the respective coordinators by the end of next week to ensure that we can plan effectively for the next academic year.

Next week Thursday will be Secondary Sports Day. We look forward to a mix of competitive and fun activities and a day of building spirit in the four different houses. Parents are welcome to pop in during the day.

Kind regards,  
**Maggie Reiff**

## JUNIOR CITY COUNCIL

My name is Mbajoroka Jatamunua. Many know me as Mbajo.

I have been graciously given the opportunity to represent WIS in the Junior City Council alongside Yanika.

I am hopeful and determined that my time in the Junior City Council will be fruitful. As a student at WIS I have come across the fact that our beloved school does not interact much with other schools in this city. I believe that I can be a link between WIS and our community of schools.

For the Junior City Council, I am determined to succeed in every activity or event planned. I am going to lend a helping hand to the elderly and sick and put a smile of hope to the cancer patients who I believe need hope at this stage of their lives.

I am going to make sure that my responsibilities are carried out with optimum enthusiasm and lend a helping hand to my fellow Junior Councilors. My time in the Junior City Council would be beneficial to me, to WIS and to the City of Windhoek.

***Mbajoroka Jatamunua***



## Year 7 Mathematics and Art

Year 7 discovered the Swiss Mathematician, Euler, this week. They learned about the problem of the seven bridges of Konigsberg and how Euler was able to prove that each part of the town could not be visited by only crossing each bridge once. He discovered that all areas of land needed to have an even number of bridges except for two of them with those two being the start and end points for all areas of land to be visited with using each bridge once only.

The common problem of “can you draw this shape without taking the pencil off the paper” came from this problem. Year 7 students now know the answer to that by counting how many lines there are at each vertex of the shape!

They decided to make their own cities that are connected by bridges and they used Euler’s discovery to ensure each part of their cities could be visited by crossing each bridge once and once only!

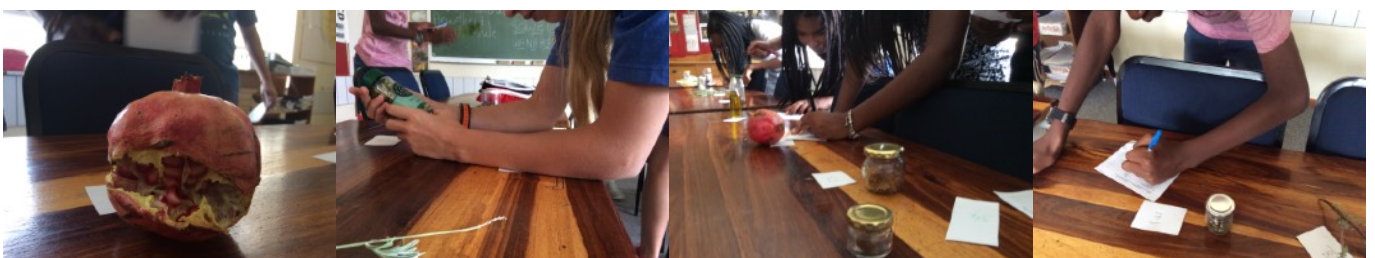
***Lian Cohen***





## YEAR 8A

History class. Renaissance unit. Identifying Herbs and Spices.



## Portuguese First Language

The Portuguese First Language students in year 10 wrote a "chain narrative essay". Each student started a narrative essay and after 7 minutes had to pass it on, in a clockwise direction. Another student would continue the narrative essay. This carried on until all students had written 5 different sections of each essay. The students decided to share these two essays with the community.



### "Jassinga" a rapariga do Mato

Era uma vez, na aldeia de kimbanda , havia uma menina chamada Jassinga. Jassinga tinha 15 anos, Ela vivia com seu pai, Joaquim e a sua mãe, Constância. Jassinga era a filha mais velha, Ela tinha cinco irmãos, contando com ela, eram seis. Eram três meninos e três meninas. A família toda vivia dentro de uma pequena casa de pau-a-pique. O pai da Jassinga era o soba da aldeia, onde eles viviam. Ele era muito bem respeitado, pelos seus vizinhos e as pessoas que viviam na aldeia.

Ela era uma menina muito valente que não tinha medo de nada, adorava ir em aventuras e explorar a natureza, mas no fundo era frágil e muito inofensiva. Acabava sempre por mostrar que era meiga e muito próxima de seu pai. Jassinga para além de ser essa menina da aldeia tinha sonhos de ser modelo, cantora ou dançarina. Como as patricinhas do mundo da fama que no "Top 3" constavam, Elizabeth Ros, Hossana Thalia e Adalgisa Casimiro. Sua irmã, Marcia sempre fazia questão de manter-a acordada e para que parasse de sonhar.

Um belo dia chegou uma carta que vinha de Londres para o soba da aldeia. Nesta carta estava uma proposta de trabalho para um dos filhos do soba. O trabalho era de ser garçomete em um dos melhores hotéis de Londres. O soba decidiu dar essa oportunidade, de ter um emprego no estrangeiro para Jassinga. Jassinga foi para Londres e começou a trabalhar no " Level Mon". Ela era uma garçomete trabalhadora e esforçada, mas sempre com os seus modos de uma garota selvagem.

Foi então que um estilista viu-a e gostou-a. Do seu porte físico, convidou-a para a sua agência e fez dela uma "Top Model". Ela ganhou muito dinheiro e ajudou toda a sua família na aldeia.

Todos acabaram por viver felizes para sempre.

### Amizade

Era uma vez, uma bela formiga chamada: Fingú que adorava trabalhar no seu formigueiro com os seus amiguinhos. Fingú era muito alegre, e gostava muito de brincar as escondidas. Um dia Fingú, brincando as escondidas foi parar no meio de uma floresta escura e sombria.

Perdeu-se, não sabia como voltar para o seu formigueiro. Fingú por ser tão alegre e positiva, não se desesperou, começou a cantarolar-" quando a formiga se perde, pensa na melodia, quando a formiga se perde, pensa na melodia", quando ela menos esperava Fingú encontra no meio do mato um grande túnel escuro e perigoso.

Fingú era tão curiosa e decidiu explorar aquele túnel escuro e perigoso. Fingú era uma aventureira e gostava de explorar. Ao entrar no túnel Fingú ouvi um barulho como se fosse uma das suas amigas formigas a serem maltratadas. Fingú começou a correr, e por enquanto ela corria ela gritava, "amigas, amigas, onde é que estão, onde é que estão, deixem-me vos ajudar." Fingú era muito valente e não podia deixar as suas amigas formiguinhas, Fingú seguiu o som dos gritos delas e encontrou uma formiga enorme, ela era toda vermelha e tinha uma coroa na sua cabeça. La estavam as suas amiguinhas presas em um cativeiro pela rainha Clara.

Fingú chorava ao ver suas grandes amigas Laurinha e Fifi. Por ser muito valente Fingú confrontou a rainha Clara, e naquela batalha a nossa fiel amiga saiu vencedora.

Desse modo resgatou suas amigas e regressaram para o formigueiro. Pôs Gufi mãe de Fingú estava muito preocupada. Depois que tudo se resolveu todas foram para casa muito felizes para rever os seus pais.

Fim



# WIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

## INTER HOUSE SWIM GALA 2016

Year groups: **Year 1-6**

Entry forms on Homeroom teachers class *blogs*

### Events

- 25m Freestyle
- 25m Backstroke
- 25m Fun Relay

Date: **11 March 2016**

Venue: **UNAM School of Medicine**  
**14:30 - 16:30**



Visit the Windhoek SPCA's [Facebook page](#) for more information

# Kool-Katz Adoption Day

Date: **5 March 2016**

Time: **10:00 - 16:00**

Place: **SPCA Premises - Robert Mugabe Av.**

Find that special **Kool-Kat**  
to complete your life!







WIS Primary School

# SNAP & WIN

A GIFT VOUCHER TO  
**Recess**  
Café

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

PHOTO BY  
**JORDAN**  
YEAR 5A

WINNER!



Theme for the picture above: Furry Friends

## Theme due Thursday at 3pm: Free Birds

### What is it?

This is a digital photography competition where primary students are given a theme every week for their photographs. Students can submit photos they've taken by Thursday 3 pm. Each week's winner will be announced on Friday and receive a N\$20 gift voucher to the WIS Recess Café (aka, The Tuck Shop). Winning photograph will be displayed here every Friday morning.

Please submit your photo by Thursday 3 pm to Mr. Marc. Try to submit file size 500 KB to 5 MB.

[mderagon@wis.edu.na](mailto:mderagon@wis.edu.na) or USB flash drive to Room 33

Photo credits: nellislorance.files.wordpress.com, 2022le.com, Peter Dalton

