



# THE ORYX

*The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School*



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## Dates to Remember

### September 2017

- **18:** Board Meeting
- **18 - 22:** Year 12 Field Trip
- **26:** Secondary School  
- Photo Day
- **27:** Primary School  
- Photo Day

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

### Back to School

I attended all four Back to School Nights this week and it was gratifying to see so many parents in attendance. The phrase "putting a face to a name" was used more than once and, to my mind, that is the principal purpose of the evening. Parents want to meet the teachers their children have been talking about and the teachers are keen to establish contact with parents. Thank you to all the parents who turned out – sometimes on two or three nights. (Did anyone come to all four?)

### 2018-2019 Calendar

The academic calendar for NEXT year (2018-2019) is now on the school website (under Admissions). It should enable parents to plan their holidays well in advance so as to ensure that their children do not miss a single minute of instruction at school... (Hint.)

### Fire Drill

A very important ritual early in the school year is the first Fire Drill. We did this on Tuesday of this week and, as always, I am impressed how cooperatively and sensibly (and quickly) the 600 people on campus assemble. It gives me great confidence that were we ever to have a real fire we would all know what to do. Further drills will follow throughout the year.

### Peter MacKenzie

## PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Primary Back to School Nights, especially those who attended both evenings. I hope you found the evening(s) to be informative and you gained an understanding of how your child spends his/her time at school. I welcome feedback both positive comments and suggestions for how we can make these evenings even better.

As the teachers mentioned in their presentations, it's important to subscribe to the class blog. The blogs provide more information about what's happening in the class, as well as what's happening in school. I encourage you to plan to take 10 minutes a day to peruse your child's class blog so that you are up to date and informed. If you aren't subscribed to the class blog, please ask the homeroom teacher for the link or use the QR code posted outside the classroom.

Have you downloaded the D6 Communicator yet? If not, here's the link with information: <http://www.d6technology.com/downloads/school>. The D6 Communicator offers a wealth of information regarding the whole school including: the 2017-2018 school calendar, Board Information, PTA news, policies, school events, etc.

Regards,  
Beth Smith

## What's going on the in the PYP?

**"Who We Are!"**

*An inquiry into the nature of the self; beliefs and values; personal, physical, mental, social and spiritual health; human relationships including families, friends, communities and cultures; rights and responsibilities; what it means to be human.*

Dear parents & guardians

Well, what exciting times we have coming back to school. "Back to School night", was a great opportunity for you to meet the staff and for you to get to know about those who work very hard in implementing such a diverse and creative learning community for your children. Thank you to all those who attended. I know staff are keen and excited to work with you collaboratively this year.

This week my focus is on an important part of our learning community, **our students!** In particular our **Primary Student Council**. Every year we have new members who are voted by their classmates to represent their year level.

### What is Student Council?

At WIS in the PYP it is a great opportunity for students to play an active, positive role in the life of their school. Representatives are a voice for the student body and can have input and give ideas of events throughout the year. The Student Council come up with ideas of how we can support various charity and fundraising as a whole school. Student Council representatives are also role models of the way we as international IB Learners are striving to be. They are there as a support and be a model to other Primary students.

### Student's role:

Representatives act as a channel of communication within the school and model the following:

- I show **Commitment** to my role in being part of Primary Student Council.
- I am **Open minded** and a **Communicator**, giving student voice and opinion to the improvement of our school.
- I am **Caring** in my support of fellow students in our school.
- I am **Principled** and show myself to be a role model to others.
- I take **ACTION** in improving our school and supporting the community around me.

This year I am pleased to present our new Primary Student Council Representatives.

**Congratulations go to the following students:**



**Frenzy Matsi (Year 2A)**



**Dino Nambahu (Year 2B)**



**Ondeya Neri (Year 3A)**



**Eden Walker (Year 3B)**



**Mark Tivzarwa (Year 4A)**



**Hiljia Nambahu (Year 4B)**



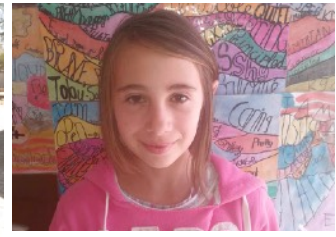
**Fadulie Ayoub (Year 5A)**



**Pandu Nandjiwa (Year 5B)**



**Zoe Thomas (Year 6A)**



**Tolou Wolf (Year 6B)**

*Avril van Zyl*

## Year 2

Over the first weeks our Y2B's learners in French have focused on the Classroom Agreements in a very creative and enthusiastic manner. They have also coloured in the first cover picture of their flip file and started to practice a traditional nursery Rhyme "J'ai un nom, un prénom".

Bravo Year 2B's!



**Madame Laetitia**



## WIS UPPER PRIMARY PRODUCTION 2017



Upper Primary students line-up, practise and wait to audition for a role in "Once Upon A Time... In A Land Not So Far Away!" last Monday. Lots of hard work lies ahead of them. Their commitment will make this experience something they will remember for the rest of their lives. By being risk-takers they will also create engaging, funny, surprising and thoughtful memories for their audiences.

## SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

### Back to School Nights

This past week, we had our Back to School nights. It was good to see many families attending and we are happy to know that parents are taking the time to be involved and meet their child's teachers.

Here are a few reminders for parents' information:

- Registration is at 7:20 each morning. Students should be in their homeroom class at 7:20.
- Please try to avoid taking children out of lessons - for appointments, for early holidays etc. Children are expected to catch up on work independently if they miss classes.
- Please inform the office in writing if your child has to miss lessons.
- If you have a concern/question to raise please contact the following people:
  - For a subject related matter - the subject teacher
  - For a social or emotional matter - the homeroom teacher.
  - When there is a bigger concern, please contact your child's coordinator - Middle School - Ms. Janse van Rensburg, IGCSE - Ms. Araujo, IBDP - Ms. Nadar-Japal
  - Ms. Sharon Gorelick is available for concerns regarding your child's health and in some cases their social-emotional well being.

*Take pride in  
how far you  
have come &  
have faith in  
how far you  
can go.*

- For Middle School students who have to wait for their siblings there is the option of attending After School Activities or joining Homework Club.
- Devices of students: each student is expected to have a device in school. These devices are only allowed on students' desks when they are used for a task. The devices should be kept in the school bag if not used for a task.
  - No cell phones are to be used during the school day.
  - Devices have to come to school charged at all times.
  - If a device is broken, parents should inform the school ([reception@wis.edu.na](mailto:reception@wis.edu.na)) or Ms. Reiff ([mreiff@wis.edu.na](mailto:mreiff@wis.edu.na)) in writing so that we can inform the teachers.
- Please note that teachers from Year 7 - 11 use Edmodo (a safe learning platform) for communication with students. Assignments and homework is posted on Edmodo and teachers can communicate with students via Edmodo. You will have received a parent code from your child's homeroom teacher. This gives you access to your child's profile and you will be able to support and monitor your child's work.
- Please ensure that you have installed the D6 on your computer. It has all necessary information from school and events will be posted on the D6. The D6 also has the contact email addresses of all teachers at school.

Please feel free to contact us if you would like to discuss any matter about your child's school life with us.

Regards,

Maggie Reiff

## Mathematics Department



Here at WIS we understand that many students enjoy using technology in their learning. Whilst technology is being integrated into lessons across the school more and more, we also subscribe to a Mathematics website that all students have access to at home. This website is [www.myimaths.com](http://www.myimaths.com). Here students can access lessons to help them consolidate what they have learned in class (or catch up from absence), online worksheets that give them instant feedback on how well they have understood the concepts, and games that make learning fun!

Every student from Year 2 to Year 13 has their own personal login details that ensure they are able to keep a record of any online worksheets they complete. This way parents and teachers can also see their progress.

Some teachers will be using the Myimaths website in their lessons, some may set online homework from it and some may just guide the students to visit certain sections of it as and when appropriate.

However, as parents you can also direct your child to practice their mathematical skills through the use of this wonderful resource.

If your child does not yet know their personal login details then they can ask their teacher who has all the information.

So, go visit [www.myimaths.com](http://www.myimaths.com) and have some Mathematical fun!

**NB: On a tablet device the PUFFIN ACADEMY APP or PUFFIN WEB BROWSER must be downloaded To access the Myimaths website.**

Lian Cohen

# WIS Bazaar 16 September

**Buy, Sell, Re-use, Recycle.  
Enjoy, Browse, Eat & Play**

## What to Sell?



### Unwanted Toys

Buy one get one free deals.



### Fancy Shoes

Make an attractive display.  
Make sure that they are clean.



### Meals & Snacks

Provide food in containers for take aways.  
Create an eating area if possible.



### Clothes

Display your Items.  
Make attractive discounts.

**WIS BAZAAR/CAR BOOT SALE SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2017 10AM - 3PM**

**Venue:** WIS main car park close to new PTA Community Center

#### Who is it open to?

The bazaar is open to friends and family of the WIS community. If you have just arrived in Namibia, it is a good opportunity to buy things that you might still need. If you are leaving Namibia, it is a good time to sell some items.

#### What is the idea behind it?

The idea is to stimulate entrepreneurship with students and parents, create an opportunity to make and sell new and secondhand pieces that are in a good condition and to socialize. It gives artists a chance to expose their talents and to sell to the public.

#### What happens to the money I make?

It's all yours!

#### What is the N\$100 fee for?

This fee is for each vendor only. Tickets can be purchased at the PTA Community Centre ahead of time and on the day for late-comers. **(Mondays at 1:30pm & Thursdays at 1:30pm)**



The proceeds will fund small initiatives throughout the school.

- ◆ **What if I have nothing to sell?**
- ◆ Come and browse and chat to sellers.
- ◆ **Can I tell my friends and family to come along and join in?**
- ◆ Yes. And friends of friends. They are welcome to be vendors too.
- ◆ **Things to remember**
- ◆ Bring chairs and tables of your own.
- ◆ Bring carrier bags for your sold items.
- ◆ An umbrella for sun protection.
- ◆ Small change
- ◆ **TIPS**
- ◆ Create a display at your table.
- ◆ Keep your money and valuables safe.
- ◆ Lock vehicle.
- ◆ Keep handbags and other valuables inside your vehicle and well out of sight.
- ◆ Remember to check that everything you sell works and is in good condition.
- ◆ Have a great day!

For more information contact: pta@wis.edu.na





BEAT REVOLUTION PRESENTS

# THE KIDS' REVOLUTION

with  
*Lola Borroni*

MAKE HIP HOP  
GREAT AGAIN!

10:30 AM  
-11:30 AM  
*Every Saturday*

VENUE | **NUCLEUS GYM FIRST FLOOR ( CRAFT MARKET )**  
PHONE NUMBER | 081 4936 338  
ADMISSION FEE | **N\$ 80 PER CLASS**  
AGE GROUP | **7 - 11 YEARS OLD**

Hello everyone, my name is Lola I am in Year 11 and I am tutoring Hip Hop dance for kids (from 7 to 11 years old) every Saturday morning at Nucleus Gym (next to the Craft Market). Classes start from Saturday 2nd of September. If you would like to join the team please send me a message [081 493 6338](tel:0814936338). Hope to see you soon! Lola

# SPCA Windhoek 68<sup>th</sup> Birthday SMS Campaign

## HELP US PAY OUR VET FEES!

**LOTS OF  
DIFFERENT  
PRIZES TO BE WON!**

25 Aug 2017  
**UNTIL**  
30 Nov 2017

**SMS SPCA To 5005**

**N\$5.00**  
per SMS  
T&Cs apply

Send as many sms's as you like during the 3 months.



Prizes to be handed over in the first week of December 2017.