



Contents

- From the Director p. 1
- Primary News p. 1 - 5
- Secondary News p. 5 - 9
- Other News p. 9 - 12

Dates to Remember

June 2018

- **20:** Term 4 Ends - Last day of Academic year
- **21 - 22:** Staff Work Days

August 2018

- **13:** Term 1 Starts: - New Academic Year 2018 - 2019



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THE ORYX

The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School

FROM THE DIRECTOR

On Holiday

The last day for learners will be Wednesday next week (the 20th). The last day for teachers will be Friday. Thereafter, the School Office will be open (8am till 3pm) Monday to Friday until and including Friday 29th June. It will then be closed for two weeks, reopening (8am till 3pm) on Monday 16th July. The new school year will commence on Monday 13th August.

May I wish everyone an enjoyable and relaxing break.

Goodbye

I announced last week that **Fernando Beukes** – Mr. B – would be leaving WIS. We will also be saying goodbye to **Justina Andreas**, **Kirstin Hildebrandt**, **Carin Vogelaar**, **Raji Pillai** and **Tony Rishchynski**. Two are staying in Namibia but the others are moving to new jobs in Angola, China, India, and Thailand. Such is the life of an international school teacher.

Shannah Behrens, who teaches EAL in the Secondary School, is also leaving but will actually return in August to cover for **Charné De'Ath** who will be on maternity leave until October.

We are grateful to all our departing colleagues for what they have achieved at WIS and we wish them all the very best in the future.

Peter MacKenzie

SCHOOL FEES

Today you should have received an important letter from the Chair of the Board of Directors about fees.
If you did not receive the letter, please contact the School Office.

PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

The end of the academic year is finally upon us. With just three days left in the semester, here are a few reminders:

- The second semester progress reports will be ready on Wednesday afternoon. Ms Catherine will be sending you a link to the iSAMS portal where you will be able to access your child's report. When reading the report please keep the definition of the descriptors in mind, along with the strengths and goals.

- If your child is leaving WIS and you would like to donate the WIS t-shirts and hats for us to use as extras, please bring them to the office.
- Class Lists for the 2018-2019 school year will be posted on Friday, August 10.
- The last day of school is Wednesday, June 20. **Dismissal is at 11:30.**



reminder

A few changes will be taking place next year beginning in August:

- We will be using Grades instead of Years for Grades 1-5 (Years 2-6) and Early Years 1, Early Years 2 and Early Years 3 for KG1, KG2 and Year 1.
- Classes will be identified by the teacher's first initial, e.g. Grade 2P; Grade 2D, instead of using A and B.
- Teaching/Teacher Assistants (TAs), will be referred to as Educational Assistants or EAs.

The end of the school year is always filled with mixed emotions - excitement for the holidays and looking ahead to a new school year, while at the same time sadness in saying goodbye to classmates, friends, teachers and teaching assistants who are moving away or going to another school here in Namibia. While we are sad to be saying goodbye to Ms Kirstin (Year 4A Teacher), Mr B (PE Teacher) and Ms Justina (Year 3B TA) we wish them all the best in the new chapters of their lives and thank them for their contributions to WIS. ***Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never, ever the same.*** (Flavia Weedn)

Many parents ask how they can help their children at home. The best thing you can do to support your child's learning is to encourage reading, whether it be reading to your child, having your child read to you or your child reads independently. The teachers will be posting on the class blogs some additional ideas for things your child can do during the school holidays.

Thank you to all of you for your support this academic year. For those of you who are leaving WIS, best wishes to you and your children with transitioning to a new country, returning to your home country, and/or to a new school. If you are traveling during the holidays, may your journeys be safe, smooth and fun. To all who are returning to WIS for the new academic year I look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday, August 13.



Thank
You

**Regards,
Beth Smith**

Last Field Trip to the FNCC

Year 4 French learners for 2017-2018!



On Wednesday this week, the French learners from WIS and Sunshine Private School were invited to assist in the projection of a beautiful Animation French movie called "Le Tableau", *three characters of different social classes*

escape their unfinished painting in search of the Painter, hoping he will complete it: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCELba2z1Tk>

Our learners enjoyed it a lot, they showed excellent social skills and represented their school very well t
Bravo!

Madame Laetitia

Congratulations Year 6!

Well done to all the Year 6 students for completing the Exhibition process. Here are some photographs of this process.



A thanks goes out to the Year 6 teachers; Ms Kaye, Ms Lyndsay and Mr Gerson.

All the supporting mentors; Ms Kirstin, Ms Jan, Ms Justina, Ms Michelle, Ms Corinne, Ms Tanya-May, Ms Beata, Ms Laetitia, Ms Lian, Ms Veena, Ms Anna and Ms Beth



Thank you to all the parents who supported their children throughout this process. A thanks goes out to the PTA for supporting the Open Evening event. Wishing our Year 6 students all the best as they transition through to Middle school.

Avril van Zyl

Winter Charity Drive!

Dear WIS community,

Thank you to all for your help and generous donations for the winter charity drive. This was a great success.... Year 4 students and teachers and young entrepreneurs helping us load the trailer to deliver at N/a'an ku sê.



These donations were delivered to N/a'an ku sê to be delivered by the organisation to the San people near Gobabis. Other donations will be delivered to the North in July. The CAS Students delivered donated materials to "Home of Good Hope".

Avril van Zyl

Portuguese Exchange

A Portuguese exchange was held on Wednesday, 13 June at WIS. Our School participated in different activities to evaluate the level of our school in comparison with the other school where they also learn the Portuguese language.

In this language exchange we had different activities (general knowledge about the Portuguese Speaking countries in the world (AFRICA, ASIA, EUROPE AND SOUTH AMERICA), famous soccer players, days of the week, months of the year and Bingo to revise the numbers and twister to revise the colours and the body parts).



At the end, the students tasted a very famous Portuguese delicacy the "pasteis de nata" provided by the PLC Coordinator: Angelina Costa.

All the activities were very exciting and our school was the overall winner.

Naftal Chivure

SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

Wishing all our families a happy, relaxing and peaceful holiday

This is the last issue of the Oryx for 2017-2018. Once again, this has been an eventful year. We have been busy and you will have been updated with all the news through the year. Now it is time to say goodbye to some and wish them all the best on the next passage of their journey. And we wish all our returning families safe travels if they are travelling but mostly a peaceful and relaxing time and hope that you have time to spend with each other.

Here is a reminder of a few practical matters for the end of year:

- School finishes for students on Wednesday, 20th June at 11:30.
- On the last day of school, students have to return their books and have their exit slips signed. **Please do not drop off books at the office**, we do not know which books a student has to return. Students have to go to their different teachers to return their books in the condition they received it



in and have the exit slip signed by the subject teachers. The exit slips are then returned to the homeroom teacher at the end of the day. Books that are not in an acceptable condition, will have to be paid for so that they can be replaced.

- In the last week of June, students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 receive a final June Transcript with their grades for Semester 1, Semester 2 and the examination grade.
 - Please note that no transcripts will be sent to families where either the exit slip has not been completed and submitted or where there are outstanding monies owed to the school.
- School starts for the new academic year on Monday, 13th August 2018 at the normal time.
 - For new families, there will be an Introduction Coffee Morning on 10th August.

I will be attending the Summer Institute from the College Board at the New York University made possible in part by the Office of Overseas Schools during next week. This will be an excellent opportunity for me to familiarise myself more with the application process in the US and to meet university admissions officers from the US.

And on the topic of university applications - SATs/ACTs

Standardised tests (the SATs and ACTs) have for long been a requirement for students to sit if they want to apply to study in the USA. These have been controversial in some ways, because some students get an advantage because they practise these long before they write the actual tests. In some cases, parents pay consultants to “train” their children to get the edge when writing the test and therefore have a better chance of getting admitted, especially to universities that are highly competitive.

Now the University of Chicago is no longer requiring SAT or ACT scores for their university application. Although many colleges had already dropped this requirement, this is remarkable, since the University of Chicago is one of the top research universities in the US. Out of over 27 500 applications the university received for the September 2017 intake, just over 2 400 applicants were admitted. If you would like to read the full article please : [Click here](#)

Good bye

I would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to the teachers who are leaving us. Mr. Rishchynski our History teacher, Ms. Pillai one of our Mathematics teachers, Ms. Vogelaar our Learning Support teacher and coordinator and Ms. Behrens our EAL teacher. We wish them well in the the journey they will be embarking on and we hope that WIS will stay in their hearts.

**Regards,
Maggie Reiff**

Youth Tournament In Germany

At the end of January, Yeabsira Abeje and I were chosen for the SKW under 19 team that would fly to take part in an International Youth Tournament in Germany. The tournament took place in a small town named Velen, and hosted other teams from Holland, Norway, Belgium and Germany.

The 14th international youth tournament, which took place from 19th to 21st May, where we played only three games in the group stages as the previous tournaments runners up cancelled at the last minute, allowing us to win every game without conceding a goal. Further advancing to the semis where we won 2-0 to the host team, taking us to the final.

The final score of the final was 2-2 against the Norwegian team, leading to the game having to be decided by penalties. We weren't able to convert our shots on goal causing us to lose 5-6, ending the tournament in despair. Despite losing in





the final, I was very proud of myself as I was able to stop two penalties from going in, which I really enjoyed at the time.

We enjoyed the 10-day tour which included going to a market in Holland, shopping in the town of Münster, a guided tour through the Schalke 04 stadium, experiencing a German school, visiting the Movie Park and all its rides, exploring a mine underneath a town and cycling in the town a lot.

We are very thankful for having been given this opportunity and being able to experience European football.

Kyle Webb

Y10 WIS Peer Counsellors for 2018/2019

One of their first tasks as Peer Counsellors was to meet the upcoming Grade 6 students whom they will support in the next academic year, helping them to settle in to Middle School.

Every year students in Year 10 (now Grade 9) volunteer to be trained as Peer Counsellors in order to identify fellow students in need of emotional support and to offer an empathetic ear and a relationship of trust.

The following students will be joining our older trained Peer Counsellors in Grades 11 and 12:



Lotte Eises, Zandr a Strauss, Victor Liebenberg, Luna Zhakata, Christian du Plessis, Kula Rodrigues, Len e Liebenberg, Maria de la Paz-N apoles, Jamie Jacobs, Takunda Kamwi, Bernard Petrick, and Jo Shali.

We are all sad to say goodbye to Josh Thomas, who is moving on with his family.

Sharon Gorelick

Netball

On Tuesday, 5th June, a Netball match was held at Delta Secondary School. The under fifteen players played against the school from 14:30 - 16:00pm. The match was definitely the type to leave you hanging off your seat; from the intercepts, the shots, the passes and the speed, to the team building that came with it. With the coaches on the sidelines (Ms. Audrey, Ms. Kirstin, and Ms. Debisa) as they thoroughly cheered and coached us on this journey . We tried our best and we also worked as a team. Even though it was not one of our best games, we still tried our hardest. Our passing, shots and interceptions were great and most of all our team work. The game score ended up being Delta 9, WIS 3. Throughout the game we worked as a team, played as a team, and lost as a team but it was one of the best games in our opinion.



We would like to say a big thank you to all the parents for supporting us by watching our games and cheering for our fellow players. Thank you to the PTA for providing us with snacks and overall thank you to Mr.B, Miss Audrey, Miss Kirstin, Miss Debisa, and Miss Smith for believing in us, for transport and most of all your support.

By: Naomi Dukes & Zuraida Strauss



On Thursday, 7th June, we played a league match against the Hage Geingob Secondary School that is located in Katutura. The U/15s played the first match and the U/17s the second match. The U/15s played from 14:30 -15:00 and the U/17s played from 15:00 - 16:00. As a Windhoek International School Team we stood together and supported one another even though we lost. We were proud and we tried our best.

A huge thanks to our coaches Ms Audrey, Mrs Kirsten and Ms Debisa for helping and supporting us all the way through.

We would also like to thank the PTA for providing us with an energy bar and a juice. As a team we want to thank Mr B for driving us safely to our destination.

The score ended up being: Hage Geingob 20 - WIS 1

The most important thing was that we stood strong and played as a team and communicated as one.

By: Rizia Gillmore & India Kay

Celebrating Life!

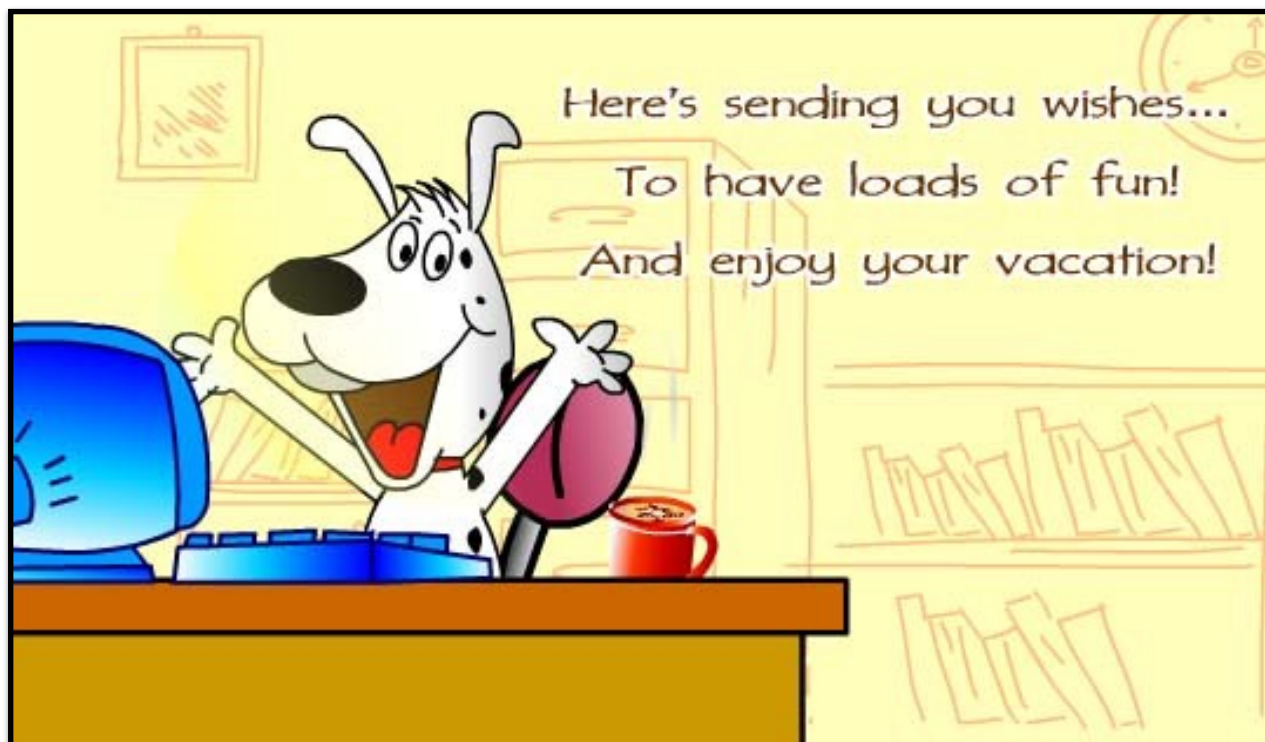
We are happy to announce that Ms. Charne De'Ath - Year 4 Primary teacher, gave birth to a beautiful baby boy on Friday, 1 June 2018.

We would like to welcome Daniel David to our WIS community!

Both baby and mommy are doing well at home and bonding with each other.

Social Committee





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.

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
AVAILBLE**

**CONTACT SONANDRE FOR MORE
INFO.**
081-3164298

PosterMyWall.com

DONATIONS NEEDED!

The Windhoek SPCA will have a stall at the **NEDBANK CITI DASH** on Saturday, 23 June!

PLEASE SPONSOR SOMETHING SWEET THAT WE CAN SELL!

Anything sweet that can be sold @**N\$10.00** or **N\$15.00!**

Donations can be dropped with us on Friday, the 22nd.

Please confirm with Ilse on **061 - 238 654** if you are willing to sponsor something!

2000 PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED! WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!



OR ANYTHING SWEET!

