



THE ORYX

The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Annual General Meeting

Thank you to the parents and staff who attended the AGM on Wednesday. It was a long meeting but a constructive one.

Three parents were elected to the Board of Directors. The Board now includes the following.

Lisa ATKINS *	USA
Yaw BRANTUO *	Ghana
Terry FARRELL *	Namibia
Jacqueline FERREIRA *	Namibia
Palesa HEKANDJO *	South Africa
Flora ISMAIL *	Tanzania
Paul KENUL	USA
Raniero LETO *	Italy
Magda NEL *	Namibia

* Current WIS parent.

The voting members of the Board will imminently choose a Chair, a Vice-Chair, and a Treasurer.

Peter MacKenzie

PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

The heat is on, so to speak and it doesn't seem as though it will let up anytime soon. I don't recall in my 4 ½ years here that it's been this hot and this humid for this long. I hear from some of the locals that they too can't remember such a time. Given this fact, we have been reflecting on what, if any, changes we can make in order to ensure the children's health and well-being.



As of yesterday, we have moved the afternoon Primary PE classes to a morning time so that no PE classes are held after Second Break (12:10), which seems to be when it's the hottest. The teachers have been, and will continue to encourage the children to drink water throughout the day. We will encourage the children to apply sunblock (if brought in from home) before break times and /or PE. We also have a no hat no play policy where we require children to wear a sun safe hat at break times. The hat should have a brim wide enough to cover the ears and neck. If children don't have a hat, they have to play under the thatch which provides a dense shade.

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Dates to Remember

February 2019

- **04 - 08:** Sec Week A
- **12 - 15:** Grade 7 Field Trip
- **20:** IGCSE/IBDP - Info session
- **23:** #EDU2019 Tech Camp



VISIT US ON:



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[Instagram](#)

WEEKLY PUZZLER

Last week's puzzler was solved by Eden (Gr3), Tiancheng and Mathew (Gr 6).

They recognised (as did Milhouse) that a perfect square can not end with the digit 2 (nor 3, 7 or 8).

And so they immediately knew that 334, 912, 740, 121, 562 is not a perfect square.

Well done!

This week's puzzler should get quite a few correct answers. The faces of a cube are painted so that any two faces which have an edge in common are painted different colours.

What is the smallest number of colours required?

Good luck! Please send your answer to pfarrell@wis.edu.na, and if you find a great puzzle send it to the same address.



What can parents do to encourage safe sun play at school?

- Send your child to school with a couple of bottles of water to last the day.
- Apply sunblock (with at least a SPF of 15) before school.
- Send a bottle/tube of sunblock to school, with your child's name clearly labeled on it, to keep in school.
- Check that your child has a safe sun hat for school (*narrow brim, ball caps or tennis hats do not count*).
- Ensure your child comes to school wearing a shirt that covers the upper back, shoulders and arms. (*Open back, sleeveless, tank tops and spaghetti straps are not recommended or encouraged to wear in the hot sun as these expose the more sensitive skin areas, which need to be protected.*)



Thank you in advance for your support to ensure your children follow safe sun practices at school.

Regards,
Beth Smith

SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

All kinds of everything from Secondary School

Join us for the Chris Aiff Memorial Football Tournament

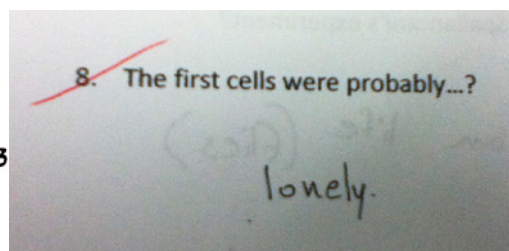
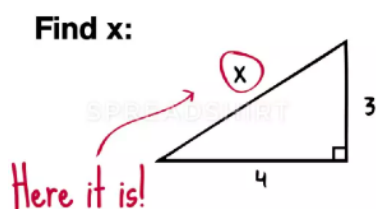
- Saturday 9 March 2019 from 8:00 - 15:00
- WIS Sportsfield (see flyer for details)

We are organising this memorial cup as our CAS project, because of our united love for football and the inspiration from the late Christopher Aiff. Christopher Aiff was a WIS graduate and a lover of the beautiful game. Christopher passed away because of cancer, but he did not let the cancer define him and he made the best out of what was left of his time on earth. "Happiness is not a limited resource" is Chris' famous quote. We really like this quote because we completely agree with it and we think that we should focus on being happy and positive instead of focusing on all the negative aspects of life. We think this was the message Chris was trying to portray with his quote. We want this project to be successful to raise money for the Cancer Association of Namibia, have fun, but most of all honour Christopher.

For further information, please see the flyers attached to the Oryx and on the WIS Facebook page. You can also find the Entry Form at the end of the Oryx. You can reach us under chriscup@wis.edu.na if you have any further questions.

Santeri Rönni, Alexander McNab, Marco Aceto, Arno Diekmann

Understanding Assessment in the Middle School



Criterion Based Assessments - 4 criteria in each subject

Why are we changing assessments?

What are criteria?

How will this benefit student learning?

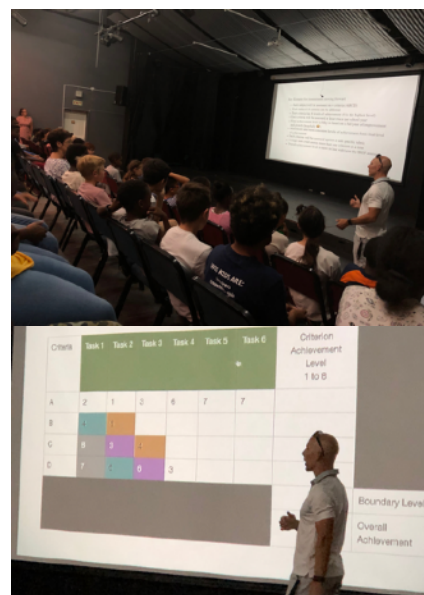
Why is the answer the student has given above not correct? The student thought about something when giving this answer, even if it was not the “correct” answer that was expected! What do we want students to do with what they learn?

These and many other questions are floating around at the moment and are making all of us (students, parents, teachers and the SLT) reflect on the purpose of our learning - what is the intention of our teachers when they walk into their classroom every day? Do they merely want students to be able to “know” or is there more to learning than just knowing?

On Thursday we explained a lot of these aspects to our Middle School students. Last year and at the beginning of the term, we hosted two Parent Evenings to outline what is happening in Middle School to the parents. And we will keep on holding these information evenings for parents to make sure they are also part of this exciting journey we have embarked on. We want our parents to be part of their child’s learning - this means, they have to take these steps (admittedly, sometimes baby steps) with us.

Reports - Why?

We want to invite parents again to take the short survey we sent to all Middle School parents last week (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RMH9ZMP>). So far, we have only received 5 replies from parents. Unfortunately, this cannot be representative for us to gauge what parents think of our reports and reporting procedures. It should not take you more than 5 minutes to complete.



The heat is on

We are currently experiencing an extra-ordinary heat spell in our country. This means that we are exposed to more UV than normally.

Our UV index at the moment is 11+ which is regarded as extreme (<https://sunburnmap.com/>) :

Time to skin redness: 9 min

Time to sunburn: **15 min**

We therefore urge all students

- To put on sunblock when they are outdoors;
- To bring to school at least 2 litres of water each day and drink at least 2 litres of water each day;
- To wear clothing that covers the shoulders and the back of the neck;
- To wear a hat when outdoors.



**Regards,
Maggie Reiff**

ISTA TRIP TO CHIANG MAI, THAILAND

We embarked on an adventurous journey across waters, travelling through time, to share, collaborate and create with fellow students and teachers from our global community. ISTA (International Schools Theatre Association) hosts such theatre festivals around the world and we feel incredibly thankful and privileged to have had the opportunity to learn from people from all around the world.



We had a very busy schedule, our first day starting at 7:30 and ending at 21:00; completely full with attending workshops, creating music and sharing ideas and laughter. Dotted throughout our time there, between learning about how to make theatre, we were exposed to many beautiful moments of learning about Thai culture. We learned traditional folk stories, visited a cave, rehearsed at the foot of a mountain and saw old temples. Some students even got the chance to attend a Thai dance workshop, a Muay Thai (Thai boxing) workshop, and worked with a local theatre company and learned how to incorporate Thai rhythms into music making. Everything we saw and experienced was woven into our final performance, under the theme: The Spirit World.



It was a truly magical time; as we learned from one of the artists at the festival, making magic is creating something from nothing - which is definitely what we did and something that we will be doing a lot more of. To give more of our students at WIS the opportunity to experience the wonder of theatre, we will be hosting an ISTA festival here in Namibia in 2020, with students hopefully from around the world coming to join us in making theatre here. Watch this space.

[Click here to view our photo and video album.](#) [Click here to view our video from the trip.](#)

Here is what some of our students have said about their experience at the festival we attended in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Dombele

I would just like to say that our trip was wonderful. We met new people, made new friends and learned from new teachers. One of the theatre practitioners we worked with, was called Francois; he does fire juggling. He was a very nice teacher. He was my teacher. We worked with a total of four practitioners, in my ensemble group and there were around 23 people. It was great to work with them, we ate Thai rice and we watched a lot of performances. It was fun.

Moses

Our trip to Thailand was fantastic and educational. I also had the same drama practitioner as Dombele, Francois - the fire juggler. He was awesome, cool and friendly. We all met different students from other schools like Dubai academy and CIS (Canadian International school) and we were combined and put in different groups. We went to different workshops like kickboxing, Drama, Music and language learning. There were other activities too. We went to the Caves, the good thing about the Cave was it was not dusty, maybe because of the humid air. We explored Chiang Mai in luxurious buses. I would like to thank Ms. Kate and Ms. Urte for supporting us and taking care of us.

Kate Matzopoulos & Urte Dorgeloh

Current/ upcoming sports teams & events

Below are the current and upcoming sports events that need participation from our energetic students.

SMALL SCHOOLS ATHLETICS

Date: March 9, 2018

Age groups: Boys and girls (to be confirmed)

U10 born 2008/2009

U11 born 2008

U12 born 2007

U13 Born 2006

Participating Schools Holy Cross Convent, Waldorf and Highlands.

Training sessions:

Tuesday **1:45-2:45pm**

Tuesday , Wednesday, Thursday **time 6:50- 7:15 am**

BASKETBALL

We are registered into the Namibia Basketball Schools League (NBSL)

Age groups

U11 born 2008, 2009, 2010 (2 teams coed)

U14 born 2005, 2006, 2007 (boys team)

U16 born 2003, 2004 (girls team) including U14s

U19 born 200, 2001, 2002 (boys team)

TRAINING SESSIONS:

Tuesday 1:45pm to 2:45pm (U11 to U14)

Tuesday 2:30 to 4:00pm (U16 to U19)

Saturday 8-9am (Open to all ages)

Please encourage your children to sign up for a team so we can have a full complement of players. We will need at least 12 players per team and each one is guaranteed playing time. It's imperative that if you are interested they attend practice at least once a week and a game day usually on a Friday from 3pm and Saturday from 8am.

SOCCER LIQUI FRUIT LEAGUE

U7 born 2012
U8 born 2011
U9 born 2010
U10 born 2009
U11 born 2008

Please encourage your children to sign up for a team so we can have a full complement of players. We will need at least 12 players per team and each one is guaranteed playing time. It's imperative that if you are interested they attend practice at least once a week. A game day is usually on a Friday.

As the after school schedule has already been completed for the 3rd quarter we will let you know in advance when training sessions will be in the 4th quarter.

If you are interested in finding out more information please contact Edwin Chinyemba.

Email echinyemba@wis.edu.na

Cell: +264 81 872 1629

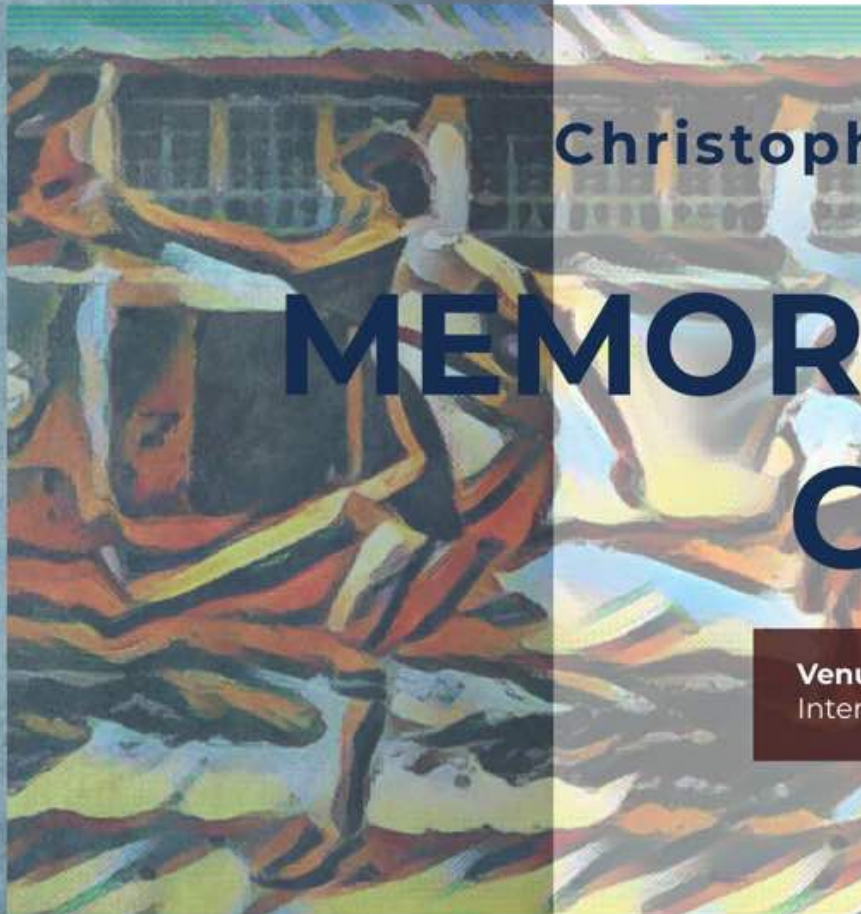
Whatsapp +26377 333 8305

PTA SUPPORTING TEACHERS

Did you know that when teachers identify needs throughout the year, they are able to request support from the PTA? The PTA at WIS serves to encourage teachers as they make our school the best it can be.

This month, the PTA is proud to support our teachers leading and participating in the second annual EduTech conference by providing coordinating shirts for the event. The conference showcases to other schools how WIS is leading the way by using technology in education, and the shirts will help others identify the workshop leaders as well as provide great marketing for our school. We wish our teachers all the best in the upcoming event!

CHINESE LESSONS:
Thursdays 1:45 - 2:45
Grades 3 - 6
In the Learning Support Department.



Christopher Aiff 5-A-SIDE MEMORIAL CUP

Venue: Windhoek International School

Saturday,
9th March 2019

Team Requirements:
Minimum 7 Players
Maximum 10 Players

Entrance Fee:
N\$500 p/team

For more information please contact
Alexander: 0817483192 or Marco: 0816374748

Email us:
chriscup@wis.edu.na

All proceeds will be donated to the
Cancer Association of Namibia

"The decision to be positive is not one disregards or belittles the sadness that exists. It is rather a conscious choice to focus on the good, and to cultivate happiness, genuine happiness. Happiness is not a limited resource."

Christopher Aiff

Christopher Aiff Memorial Cup

Team name

PLAYERS NAMES

- 1. (C).....
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....
- 5.....
- 6.....
- 7.....
- 8.....
- 9.....
- 10.....

CAPTAINS PHONE NUMBER

Note:

5-A-Side

Takes place on the 9th of march at W.I.S

Entry fee is N\$500



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IMMIGRATION

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

STUDENTS' PERMITS OPEN FOR 2019

The Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration would like to announce that applications for Students' Permits for the 2019/ 2020 academic year have been open since 01 December 2018 and will close on 28 February 2019. **NB: No late application will be accepted.**

Students wishing to study in Namibia should have proof of admission/ registration with accredited study institutions before applying for the permits.

Students' Permit fee per year is N\$ 1500 (Primary and Secondary Education) and N\$ 2000 (Tertiary Education) payable after the application has been approved. A fee of N\$80.00 (handling/Administrative fee) is payable upon submission of the application.

Students are further informed that acknowledgement receipts or approval letters issued by the Ministry cannot be used at the ports of entry as proof of Students' Permits because they are not regarded as permits.

International students should further take note that a Student's Permit is only applicable for the institution where the student is admitted whose name appears in the letter of approval and endorsement and cannot be transferred to any other institutions, without approval of the Ministry of home Affairs and Immigration.

For further enquiries and full requirements (if in Windhoek) you may visit the Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration Students' Permits Counter No.1, Ground Floor, during working hours or alternatively contact the following officials:

1. Mrs. Anna Kapenda, Control Immigration Officer at 061-2922105 or 081 142 2158
2. Mr. Stephen Namongo, Chief Immigration Officer at 061-292 2100 or 081 686 8518
3. Ms. Ndeshi Uugulu, Senior Immigration Officer 061-2922107
4. Ms. Suama Petrus, Senior Immigration Officer 061-2922106
5. Mr. Sacky Kadhikwa, Public Relations Officer at 061-292 2169 or 081 125 3674
6. Ministerial website: www.mha.gov.na

Thanking you for your understanding and cooperation.


NEHEMIA NGHISHEKWA
 Director of Immigration