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Dates to Remember

September

- **19 - 23** - Secondary: Week A
- **23** - Secondary: Last day AA
- **26** - Year 10 & 12 Trips
- **30** - Primary: Last day AA

THE ORYX

The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The school is proud that it is an authentic international school beholden to no national, cultural or religious tradition. We are, however, grateful that the US Department of State Office of Overseas Schools (OOS) supports us both financially and in other ways. And I will be able to thank them personally on Monday and Tuesday when Mary Russman, the OOS Regional Education Officer for Africa, visits the school.

Mary enjoyed a long career as an international school teacher and Head (including time in Africa) and she well understands the challenges – and joys! – of doing the jobs we do. She will meet the administration, the Board Chair, teachers, parents and, of course, our students and it will be a pleasure to welcome her to WIS.

Please note that I'll be out of school next week from Wednesday. There are sixty or so international schools throughout Africa and next week the Heads of most of them are having the first of what may become an annual retreat to discuss matters of mutual interest. I'll be back in the office on Tuesday 27th.

With best wishes
Peter MacKenzie

PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

During Term 2, the Primary School will be hosting two interns who have chosen WIS as the school where they'd like to do their practice teaching. They are both German, in their mid-twenties and studying in Denmark at University College Sjaelland.

Mirjam and Jennifer will start their internship on October 24 and finish December 2. They are looking for accommodation for the duration of their stay. If you know of a relatively inexpensive place that they can rent or if you are interested in hosting one or both of the interns, please contact me for more information.

Regards,
Beth Smith

Teacher Feature continued

It was also during my varsity days when took some time to go cycling through Africa with a friend, who had another friend that accompanied us. This friend of his would one day become my wife. The last country we cycled to was Namibia, and we both fell in love with it instantly.

After university I wasn't sure what to do next, and still longing for the bush I became a Game Ranger, working first at Phinda Game Reserve and then at Madikwe in the North-West province. From here, I found a job managing a small private reserve. They also had facilities to accommodate school camps, with various adventure activities.

I enjoyed helping out with the different groups who came on these camps, eventually starting to run the program on my own.

I enjoyed working with students and eventually made the decision to go into teaching. I got a teaching job in White River, where I worked for 6 years before both my wife and I started feeling the itch to move on. We both knew that Namibia was the next step, and here we are.

I believe in a holistic approach when it comes to teaching. Although a school's first priority is academic, I think that a teacher has so much more to give, being part of the students' lives daily, which is the reason I always look for opportunities, both in- and outside the classroom, for further development in all areas of their lives.

Interesting fact about me: I never wear bowties.

Welcomes all Students into the New Academic Year of 2016-2017!

Our Student Council of 2016-2017 is a loving very open group of people with many different attributes all working together in harmony. Please do not hesitate to ask any of us for our help or to talk to us about any complaints you might have, or any ideas for our school to become a better place for us all.

The Senior Student Council is a committee of dedicated hard working students, that work hard to make the school a better place.

Year 12	Year 11	Year 10
Anna	<u>Chantelle</u>	<u>Huambi</u>
<u>Albè</u>	Elizabeth	Bennett
<u>Micaela</u>	Ashraf	<u>Lisane</u>
Princess	<u>Britanny</u>	Vanessa
<u>Selina</u>	<u>Gabie</u>	
Alicia	<u>Gersia</u>	
Emilia	Luka	
Christine	<u>Thyra</u>	
<u>Kesnee</u>		
<u>Kiami</u>		

Our goals for this year are to open WIS to a much larger community. Working together with other schools in Windhoek is one of our top priorities. We further strive to establish a friendly and happy environment for all the students of WIS and to create a stronger school spirit among us all.

The Senior Student Council has just launched our new Instagram page. This page will be linked with our Facebook page. On both we post information about all our upcoming events, photos from our last events and up to date information about our involvement in school, and how you can help!

Join us in celebrating World Peace Day on the 21st of September!

Please wear a light green, blue or white shirt with jeans **next week Wednesday** in celebration of World Peace. Show us you care and want to be a part of celebrating peace and joining hands in the hope of peace for this world.

Connect with us on: **Instagram @_windhoek_international_ or Facebook @ Windhoek International Students**

If you are new to the school and would like to join the Secondary Student Council please contact us at secondarystudentcouncil@wis.edu.na

We look Forward to a great year together.

Student Council Team and Presidents Selina and Alicia

Anna Mutali Year 12

Team up! Join PTA

Take an active part in your child's school life

Nomination forms for PTA elections are available on the D6 under Resources/ PTA.

Forms can be emailed or handed to Catherine at the Reception, until Friday 23rd of September at 12:00.

The PTA election for 2016/2017 school year will take place at the PTA AGM on Wednesday 28th of September at 12:00, at the PLC. Hope to see you there!



Inter house Swim Gala 2016

Due to numerous requests to change the date for the whole school swim gala, it will now take place Friday, 28 October 2016 (confirmed) at the UNAM School of Medicine swimming pool in Khomasdal.

The deadline for entries is Friday, 21 October 2016.

WIS

INTER HOUSE SWIM GALA 2016

Year groups: Year 2-13

Events

- 25m Freestyle
- 25m Backstroke
- 25m Butterfly
- 25m Breaststroke

Dates: Friday, 28 October 2016

Venue: UNAM School of Medicine

Time: 14:30 - 17:00 (TBC)



Entry forms will be available as from Friday, 16 September to download on the D6 and classroom teachers blogs.

F.Beukes, T. Jackson-Read, B. Stephanus, J. Vieira

Year 8 English class - grammar lessons

The past few weeks the Year 8 students have focused on different parts of speech in English. They learned how to apply and identify nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives and the rules of concord. The Year 8A students received the following photo and a list of adjectives to write an interesting descriptive page. I would like to share Emilio Leto's descriptive paragraph.



The infant orangutang was caught in a downpour with torrents of rain sweeping in. Soaked to its leathery skin, the orangutang trod towards a leaf. A bright green, glistening leaf, the kind of leaf that belongs to a fantasy, when the earth wasn't ancient, but new-born, undisturbed and solely nature. Like today's earth just washed and cleansed of all humanity's sins. The infant picked his way carefully through the part time river and undergrowth. He picked his way towards the great, big leaf, moving expertly on the slippery surface. He clambered onto the rough, rocky mud slide,

climbing towards the leaf. At one point the poor orangutang slipped leaving himself hanging from his hands as his legs scrambled furiously. Eventually the now mud bathed orangutang reached the beautiful leaf. The leaf was massive! The surface of the leaf was glassy due to the relentless rain, its size as big as a dustbin lid! Its gold veins spidering out from the core outwards towards the edges of the leaf. The golden veins placed in near perfect symmetry. The orangutang plucked the handsome leaf off it's sturdy stalk. The dirty orangutang slid down the brown-red mud slide, clutching the leaf in his right hand. He stumbled down into the swiftly flowing and spotless area, as he searched for a suitable perch.

Finally he found a suitable perch. A forked tree that had previously fallen hard in front of the mud slide waterfall as it had suffered from head on 70km/h winds, unsheltered itself out. He was dry thanks to the great, big leaf he held above himself. As he dried himself his fur's true colour came out, a red, rusty brown shown through. A shame there was no one there, it would've made a fantastic photo...

Angatha Janse van Rensburg



Kindergarten2 had a fun time playing, exploring and applying what they had learned in the classroom with iPads. [Read about their Play, Explore activities here](#)
Danai Maramba





WIS CAR BOOT SALE

DECLUTTER AND SELL YOUR 2ND HAND GOODS IN GOOD ORDER

Date: Saturday, 22 October 2016

Time: 10:00 - 15:00

Place: WIS Carpark (Staff parking area)

Sellers Fee: N\$100 per car boot

Free entrance! Children welcome!

ON SALE: GAMES, FOOD, DRINKS AND ICE CREAM

Further queries to Sandra @ 081 446 5625 and kbritz@wis.edu.na

