



# THE ORYX

*The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School*

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

### Board of Directors

The current Board of Directors numbers eleven and all are parents of children currently enrolled at the school. The Board meets in the evening roughly once a month to conduct regular business but periodically the members also convene for broader-ranging discussions of a more strategic nature.

Last Saturday, the Board and the members of the School Leadership Team met for a number of hours to review the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. (If you have not received or seen a copy of the Plan, please ask for one in the School Office.) It was a productive and valuable meeting, not least for the newer members of the Board whose input into our vision for the future development of the school was constructive.

It was also decided that it is time for a 'mid-term' report on the progress we have made towards the goals listed in the Strategic Plan. This will be prepared and made available to parents before the end of this school year.

### 2018-2019 School Fees

The Board of Directors has published the fee schedule for the 2018-2019 school year. Parents should have received a message today. (If you did not, please contact the School Office.) The 2018-2019 fees can also be found on the website under Admissions and on the D6. [Fee Structure 2018-2019](#)

### Peter MacKenzie

## The Margaret Sanders Scholarship for Girls

WIS is a member of the Association of International Schools in Africa (AISA) and every year the Association awards a scholarship (currently worth US\$2,000) to a girl enrolled in an AISA member school. The recipient must be a citizen of the host country.

More information can be found [here](#).

This week we received the very exciting news that one of our students, Tuundjakuje Tengee in Year 10, has been selected to receive the 2018-2019 award. We are delighted for her and, of course, very proud.

The Scholarship being specifically intended for only African girls, we were delighted that Sandra Camilo-Giroud, our highly-regarded PTA Chair and a citizen of Angola, agreed to present the certificate.

Congratulations to Tuundjakuje!



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## Dates to Remember

### March 2018

- **30:** Good Friday - Public Holiday

### April 2018

- **02:** Easter Monday - Public Holiday
- **5-6:** Science Fair
- **17:** Board Meeting
- **25-26:** Primary Sport Days



VISIT US ON:



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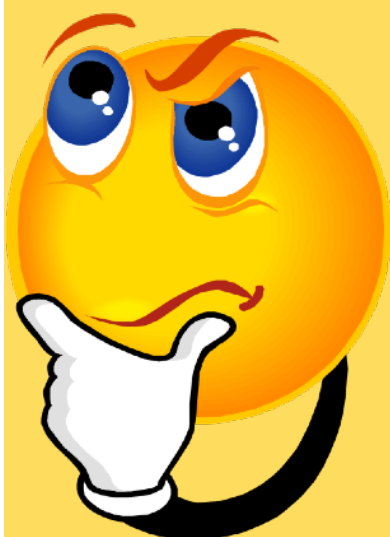


Instagram

**WEEKLY PUZZLER**

Here is a quick puzzler for the holiday weekend. How many degrees are there between the minute and hour clock hands at 3:15?

Please send solutions, or any fun and interesting puzzlers to [pfarrell@wis.edu.na](mailto:pfarrell@wis.edu.na)



**PRIMARY PRINCIPAL**

**What is learning?**

At the recent ACE training that took place at WIS, one of the topics included about the requirements for accreditation is how the school defines learning. Most dictionaries define learning as acquiring knowledge or skill through study or experience. This seems to be such a simple definition to describe learning in this day and age. Learning in the PYP is certainly so much more than this. Based on what you’ve experienced through your children’s learning at WIS how would you define learning?

A few years ago the Primary staff developed the following definition.

*Learning in the Primary School at WIS is a journey of inquiring, discovering, exploring, and experimenting while developing understanding and acquiring new knowledge, skills and concepts. In the process the learner constructs meaning by making connections and applying these in daily life situations. The Learner can realise individual potential through continued reflection and exploration. The learning environment is multi-sensory, collaborative, enjoyable and encourages international-mindedness.*

I believe our definition of learning is comprehensive, describes what learning is for our children in the Primary School and what we will continue to strive to achieve.

Regards,  
Beth Smith

**SECONDARY PRINCIPAL**

**Responsibility**

**Can we expect our kids to take responsibility?**

**When are they old enough to take responsibility for their own actions?**

We always want the best for our children. In the process, we sometimes take away the opportunity for them to take responsibility for their own well being. Here are a few examples:

- My child has not done his/her homework. Do I get in touch with the teacher to tell him/her? Does he/she just wait and hope that the teacher does not find out?
- My child has a problem with another child. How do I react when he/she tells me about that. Do I look at all sides of the situation or only take my child’s side?
- My son/daughter wants a new device? Do I just go and buy it for them? Or do we save money together so that this can be bought?



And there are numerous other examples where we parents sometimes take the opportunity off our children to take ownership of their own lives.

At WIS, we try to encourage our students to be risk-takers. It needs courage to approach a teacher if something is not going well. It is not easy to talk to a peer who has been rude to you and tell them that you do not appreciate this. BUT, if our kids can learn to do that, and we handle these situations carefully and sensitively, our children learn to take responsibility for their own well being. And often, they also learn to care for each other and take responsibility for their group. And this is what we really want

to instill in our children. You are responsible for yourself, but you are also responsible for your family, friend and community.

When we have the courage to stand up for ourselves in the right way - polite, modest and with respect, we earn the respect of people around us and things are much easier to resolve and sort out.

**Regards,  
Maggie Reiff**



## Year 8 French class treasure hunt

### Chasse au Trésor sur le campus avec les Year 8

Last week, the Year 8 French class had a treasure hunt on our WIS campus.



Their mission was to put their learning into practice: they had to understand directions and geographical locations to be able to find clues hidden throughout the school. They also had to solve riddles and to answer questions about French culture and civilisation.



They showed excellent collaboration, thinking and research skills and managed to discover the treasure!

**Text by Catherine Mousseau, Photos by Leonhardt Fischer-Buder.**

## Chocolate

*The Year 9 students were working on the theme of Chocolate for the past month as English and Science have integrated lessons. One of the tasks the students were asked to do was to make their own Hot Chocolate and after drinking it, to write a descriptive paragraph. Here is a taste of what the students wrote - more interesting work that the students produced will follow in next week's Oryx.*

A familiar aroma fills the air as I bring the ceramic mug closer to my face. The steam sets on my mouth, warming my cold lips - subject to a frosty morning. I anticipate the radiant warmth that will flow through my body as the sweet rich brew will roll over my tongue, engulfing my taste buds with the hot chocolate I crave.

Expecting this I raise the pearly white mug to my lips but something catches my eye. A marshmallow, an intruder to my treat. Already it is melting as it floats in the delicious hot milk. It's pink chemicals form a foam around the perimeter of my mug, polluting and intoxicating my drink. I decide to drink as quickly as I can so that the marshmallow will not be able to destroy my love any further, if there is nothing left to destroy. I gulp a mouthful of the hot chocolate. It fills my mouth and my eager tongue is greeted with a blistering heat. My throat refuses to allow such heat pass to any farther. I open my burning mouth and with it a gush of hot chocolate explodes from my lips. It soaks my shirt and flows into my lap which induces more searing pain. - **Emilio Leto - Yr. 9A**



There was steam flowing out of the cup, it smelt like freshly made chocolate. The drink was a silky brown colour with two marshmallows floating on top. As I brought the mug closer to my lips, I could smell the chocolate, pure as could be. As I took my first sip, I could feel the chocolate running through every inch of my body - giving me a sense of warmth inside. - **Jethro Hiwilepo - Yr. 9B**

I got up from my place and headed over to the table in the far corner of the classroom. On the wooden table I saw three items, a carton of milk, a small bowl of sugar and a bright purple container. Since I was the first one to make my drink, I opened the purple container and a smooth chocolate powder flew up like dust. I grabbed my stainless steel spoon and took three heaped teaspoons of the delicious powder. Next I added two teaspoons of the granulated sugar into my white mug. I picked up the hot kettle and I poured the scorching hot liquid into my ceramic mug and took it back to the table. I poured a generous amount of full cream milk into it and I popped in two pearly white marshmallows. Then I returned to my place and sat down.

Soon a familiar scent filled the room and my mouth began to water. The marshmallows were now soft and gooey and as I ate them they melted in my mouth like butter. After my hot chocolate cooled down a little, I took a small sip and I felt the warm chocolate run down my throat. It filled my body with warmth and made me feel at home. It had the most incredible flavour, so smooth and chocolatey. Suddenly I realised what I had done, without even thinking, I drank the whole thing! Now, my delicious chocolate ocean was dry. - **Olivia Shino - Yr. 9B**

**More short stories here...**

[A Sugar and Cocoa mix](#)

[Amanika And the bad side of chocolate](#)

[Chocolandia](#)

[A Distant Land](#)

## Future Champions Soccer Tour

Two of our senior boys achieved a magnificent accomplishment by being selected to represent Namibia in the Global Future Champions Football event, held in Johannesburg last weekend. Kyle Webb and Diogo Vieira Ferreria were in the squad for the 6 day event hosted at the Soccer Stadium Gauteng.



This is a highly auspicious and prestigious tournament and it is a great honour to have WIS students involved. It was the result of consistent training and preparatory work over a sustained period of time that enabled Kyle and Diogo to follow in the foot prints of profession footballers.

Many of the great players currently playing in the BPL Bundesliga, and La Liga have played in this tournament. Congratulations also to the families of those boys selected whose ever present support has allowed the boys to develop their talent by performing in a globally broadcast live sports event!

**Thomas Jackson-Read**

### PLEASE RESERVE THE DATE

JOINT IRISH/WIS EVENT TUESDAY 10 APRIL 2018

VENUE: WIS AUDITORIUM

TIME: 6PM TO 9.30PM

FILM: ONE OF THESE IRISH FILMS WILL BE SCREENED IN THE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM ON TUESDAY 10 APRIL 2018. WE WILL RELEASE THE NOTIFICATION OF WHICH ONE CLOSER TO THE TIME.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A WELCOMING DRINK AND FILM.

PTA BAR WILL BE OPEN BEFORE THE SCREENING.

CLICK ON THE TITLES FOR SYNOPSIS AND TRAILER VIDEOS

1. [SING STREET](#)
2. [ONCE](#)
3. [HANDSOME DEVIL](#)
4. [BETWEEN LAND AND SEA](#)
5. [A DATE FOR MAD MARY](#)
6. [BROOKLYN](#)
7. [LOST IN THE LIVING](#)

## WIS celebrating our diversity

### WIKA "At 66 still going strong"

WIS will be participating in the annual Street Parade of the Windhoek Karneval. We want as many children, teachers, parents and members of our community to participate in the parade to celebrate our diversity.

This is how it is going to work:

**Date:** 7 April 2018

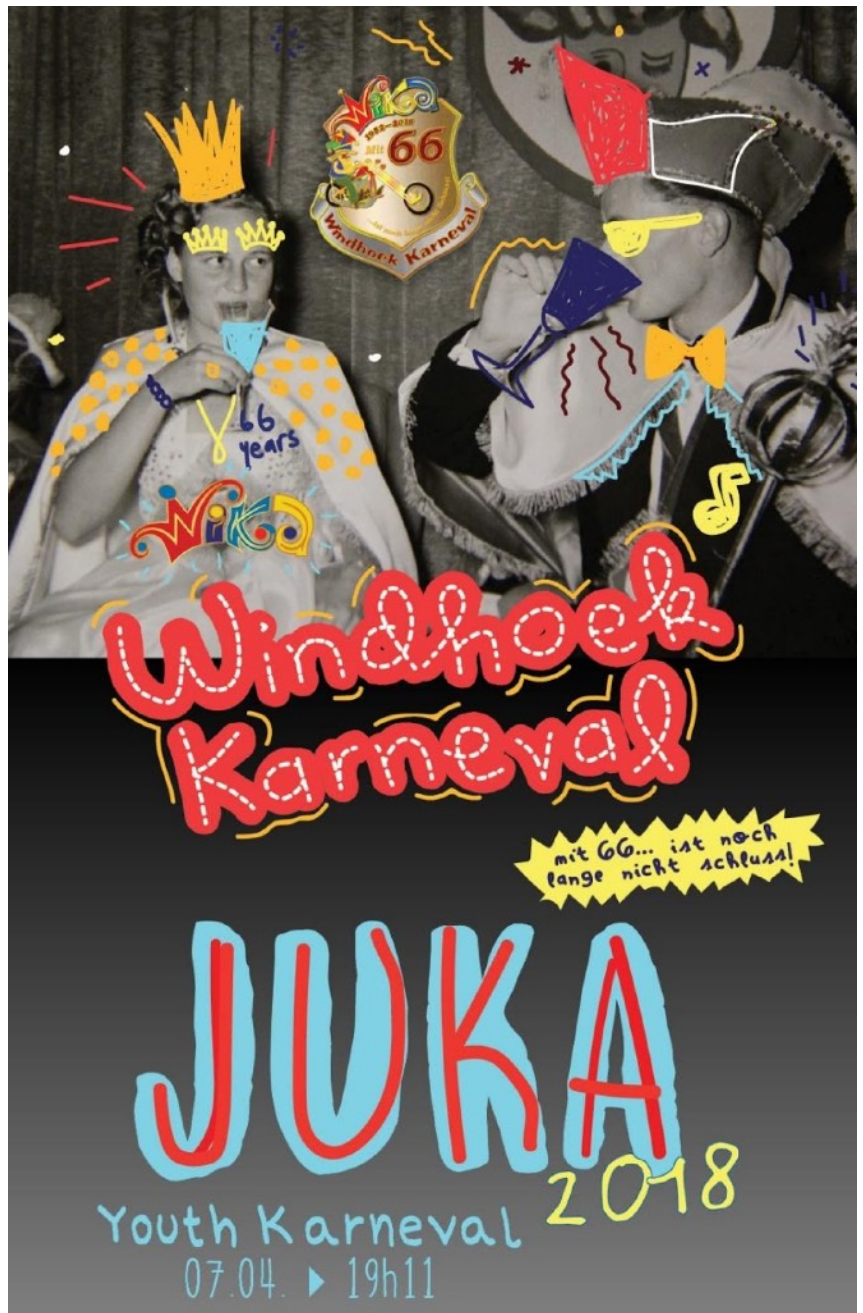
**Time:** 9:30 - 12:00

**Route:** Ausspannplatz Circle to Kudu along Independence Avenue

**How does it work:** We will be carrying our flags and dressed either in national costume or WIS shirt along the route. The more people participate, the more impressive our group will look and the more of an impact we can make in showing our diversity.

**Why would we do this:** WIS is part of the Namibian community and the annual street parade is intended for the broader community. We have 5 WIS students participating in the JUKA (Youth Carnival). **AND** there are prizes to be won. The first prize is N\$12 000 of Pick and Pay vouchers to be used towards our tuck shop.

**Interested:** Contact Ms. Reiff ([mreiff@wis.edu.na](mailto:mreiff@wis.edu.na)) or your homeroom teacher so that we can prepare the flags. We will be meeting on Wednesday at 12:00 to briefly explain the process.



**IMPORTANT REMINDER**

If you pay monthly, please bear in mind that the final invoice for the 2017 - 2018 school year must be settled before we can release reports, the yearbook and so on. You are respectfully asked to ensure that all outstanding amounts are in the account by Monday, 2nd April 2018.

*Please also note that if any fees or dues are still outstanding from the previous year, no child from that family will be eligible for re-registration for the next academic year.*

**SCHOOL FEES 2018 - 2019 PAYMENT**

For those who pay monthly, please note that 20% of the annual fee payment should be made before the first day of school - i.e. before Monday 13th August 2018.

This means it must be received by the school by Friday 10th August 2018.

It may be prudent to start planning for this now.

*If you have any questions about this, please contact the Finance Manager, Maryke Coetzee.*

**WIS Sports Calendar 2018**



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 2nd February Primary Swim Gala  | March/April Inter Schools Basketball Leagues Start |
| 3rd February Volleyball 4 All @DTS  | April Field Hockey Trials (Boys and Girls)         |
| 8th Feb Small School Athletics, Olympia   | 25/26th April Primary Sports Day                   |
| 23-25 Feb U16 Boys Basketball - J'burg  | May Netball League Starts (Girls)                  |
| Secondary Inter House ( <i>Handball and Netball</i> )   | April 21st Earth Day                               |
| March - Senior and Middle School Netball Training ( <i>Monday and Wednesday - League Prep</i> ) | 7th June T4 Secondary Inter House                  |
| March - LFL Boys Football League Starts U7/U8/U9/U11 @DTS                                       | 15th September Primary Swim Gala @WHS              |
|   | October T1 Secondary Inter House                   |

**INTERNATIONAL  
& FOOD CRAFT BAZAAR  
2018**

**SATURDAY  
14 APRIL**

**10:00 - 14:00**  
**FNCC Gallery & Terrace | Free entry**  
*Canned food and new or second-hand children's books welcome!*

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS YEAR'S EVENT WILL GO TO CHARITIES SUPPORTING  
YOUNG WOMEN AND FEMALE EMPOWERMENT IN NAMIBIA

Franco-Namibian Cultural Centre | 118 Robert Mugabe Avenue | Tel. 061 387 330 | Find us online [www.fncc.org.na](http://www.fncc.org.na)





**JOIN US FOR  
AN INFO  
SESSION IN  
WINDHOEK**

*with*  
**SERGIO  
RODRIGUEZ**

**Monday, April 16  
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
Hilton Windhoek**

**RSVP at  
[s.rodriguez@euruni.edu](mailto:s.rodriguez@euruni.edu)**

**#StartHere**

