



THE ORYX

The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Board of Directors

Following last week's AGM, the first meeting of the new Board of Directors was held on 5th February.

The following positions were decided.

Chair	Ms. Flora Ismail
Vice-Chair	Ms. Lisa O'Donoghue-Lindy
Treasurer	Ms. Magda Nel

Governance Workshop

It is common in international schools for the board and senior leadership to bring in an outside consultant periodically to conduct a workshop on governance. The reality is that very few people who join school boards really know what their job is (and is not). It can be very helpful to spend a day running through role plays and case studies to help all parties understand their responsibilities and competencies.

In September 2018 we brought in Dr. Chris Muller to conduct such a workshop. (He also facilitated the meeting of parents, board, and staff that was held in October 2019.) He is coming again to lead a governance workshop on **Saturday 4th April** from 9am to 4pm.

WIS parents who think they might be interested in serving on the Board of Directors in the future are welcome to attend this workshop. However, please register by writing to reception@wis.edu.na.

Peter MacKenzie

PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

100th Day

The Primary School was filled with an air of excitement yesterday as it was the 100th day of school. Many of the children brought in a collection of 100 items, such as puzzle pieces, cereal, fruit, popcorn, peanuts and many other creative items. Why is this day celebrated? It's a fun way to play with and experience numbers. Preparing their hundred items gives children practice in counting. Comparing the different items brought in to school helps children see that 100 comes in different sizes and shapes. (A container of grapes looks more than a container of popcorn.) The children used their 100 items to count by different amounts (2s, 5s, 10s) as appropriate. They also looked at the patterns of these numbers, and the different groupings. Some classes made necklaces of 100 pieces of cereal, giving them practice in their fine motor skills as they put the thread through each piece.

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Dates to Remember

February 2020

- **12 - 14:** Grade 5 Camp
- **12:** Sec Parent Evening
- **17 - 21:** Book Week
- **17:** Grade 7 Trip
- **20:** IGCSE Info Session

March 2020

- **03:** Sec Inter-house
- **06:** End of Term 3
- **16:** Start of Term 4



Facebook



Instagram



Twitter



ALUMNI CORNER

Danielle Zimny completed her IB Diploma in 2012.

She completed her Masters in General Linguistics in 2017 at the University of Stellenbosch, and after graduating, spent most of 2018 working for a member of the German Parliament in Berlin.

Danielle is currently living in Hanoi, Vietnam, and working as a content editor/writer for a destination management company.

This is what she says about her career path:

'Thanks to my job I've had quite a few travel opportunities to other countries in Southeast Asia as well, so that's been very exciting.'



As part of the build-up to 100s day, many of the classes in the younger grades, keep track of the days we've been in school, using straws or popsicle sticks and putting these in a 3-D base, ten display. Doing so provides a visual and reinforces the base 10 system of counting by ones to 10 then regrouping, and counting by tens to 100 then regrouping. Reaching 100 is a milestone.

100s day is also a reminder that we are more than halfway through the academic year. It might be a good time to scroll through your child's Seesaw posts and reflect on all that your child has learnt and accomplished in these 100 days.

Grade 5 Camp

The Grade 5 students are feeling excitement and anxiety as they are preparing for their two-night, three-day camp to West Nest Lodge, located in Gobabis. The students, accompanied by Ms. Kaye, Ms. Pamela, Mr. Gerson, Mr. Danai and me will depart school Wednesday morning for three days of team building, fun, work and play. For many children, it will be their first time away from home (and for their parents, it's the first time that their children are away from home). For some, it's their first time camping and roughing it a bit in the great outdoors.

The Grade 5 Camp is the beginning of the upcoming exhibition. Students will be introduced to what the exhibition is all about and begin to make sense of it as they are guided in unpacking the various aspects. Team building activities will support working together on the exhibition and working with people they don't necessarily know well. This is a time to put the ATL (Approaches to Learning) skills and the Learner Profile attributes into practice.

In addition to the above, the Grade 5 Camp is somewhat of a rite of passage for the students as they begin to show more independence and take more responsibility for themselves in preparation for Middle School. After all, it won't be long until they are in Grade 6.

I'm sure there will be future Oryx articles written about the Grade 5 Camp experience but for now, suffice it to say, it promises to be a positive and lasting memorable trip for all.

Regards,
Beth Smith

POP-UP EXHIBITION

FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

Dear Parents and Guardians of 2B and 2D,
We are having a Pop-up Art Exhibition in the Art room of the students' artworks inspired by the French artist, George Seurat. His works were labelled as an art movement called Pointillism.

Please come with your child and view the art pieces using the same technique.

Of course, everyone else who is interested is welcome to visit the exhibition.

VENUE: Primary Art room #41

DATE: - Friday 14th February

TIME: 7.00am to 7.45am and then again after Assembly.

We look forward to seeing you again.

Once we share our surveys with parents and students, we would appreciate as much as possible open and sincere feedback from our community to ensure that what we intend to do is also how it comes across to our students and parents so that we all grow together in the interest of our children's education.

Maggie Reiff
Secondary Principal

What do you see?

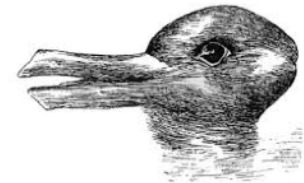
Perception - Context - Point of View - Intention - Emotion

On the matter of communication. All our families in **Secondary School** especially our **new families** and their children are invited to our February Parent Evening:

- **On 12 February 2020**
- **18:00 - 19:00**
- **In the WIS Staff Room**

We will address our use of technology and devices, our approach to teaching and learning (assessments, class interactions etc.), our overall approach to respect and discipline in school and anything you would like to be informed of. Please make some time to join us on Wednesday next week if you have any uncertainties, questions, suggestions or any other things you would like to address.

Regards,
Maggie Reiff



Book Review of Adrian Mole

Aged 13¾ by Sue Townsend

Adrian Mole focuses on the nuances of the teenage years and his dysfunctional parents, his 'spots', his affection towards Pandora and his daily payments to the school bully, Barry Kent.

Adrian Mole is a coming of age story, based on the mind of a precocious intellectual. Adrian is a 13-year-old boy, who although writes confidently, often misinterprets the events that go on around him, such as his love for his fellow Grade 8 classmate, Pandora Braithwaite, his eighty-year-old friend, Bert Baxter, his acne problem, his troubles in school and his parents' marital affairs. The book takes place from 1981 to the beginning of 1982 and, being a teenager, his writing is humorous and lighthearted.

The narrator, Adrian also includes pop culture references and events that happened during that time. Such as the royal wedding, Margaret Thatcher and the wars of the world. A subtle but interesting aspect of the book for old and young readers alike.

The book is entertaining and enthralling and discusses all the nuances of growing up and becoming a teenager. The book is suitable for 12-year-olds and above, but to enjoy and appreciate the full book, one has to be close to Adrian's age (so around 12 to 16 years of age). The reason why one should read the book when they are teens is that they could relate to the struggles and difficulties that Adrian is also going through. It is witty and is written very creatively, describing the surroundings of Adrian visually in one's mind. Finally, Adrian Mole is a stress reliever and a fun, witty, entertaining book for all to read.

Mathew Varghese, Gr. 7LC



Secondary School Inter-house

It's been quite a while since we heard the 'Lions Roar' during inter-house.



Inter-house events have become highly competitive affairs with all secondary students participating in the one day tournament.

There were 5 parallel events throughout the day:

- MS1 Basketball
- MS2 Basketball
- Senior Mixed Basketball
- Senior Boys Basketball
- Senior Mixed Volleyball

It was great to see established players combined with the abundant emerging talent we have in the school in a competitive celebration of our sporting prowess.

All 5 competitions were combined and the following final positions were as follows:

- MS1 Basketball - 1st Lion; 2nd Caracal; 3rd Cheetah; 4th Leopard
- MS2 Basketball - 1st Lion; 2nd Caracal; 3rd Leopard; 4th Cheetah
- Senior Mixed Basketball - 1st Leopard; 2nd Lion; 3rd Cheetah; 4th Caracal
- Senior Boys Basketball - 1st Lion; 2nd Caracal; 3rd Leopard; 4th Cheetah
- Senior Mixed Volleyball - 1st Lion; 2nd Caracal; 3rd Cheetah; 4th Leopard

Overall Standing

- 4th Cheetah
- 3rd Leopard
- 2nd Caracal
- 1st Lion




Next inter-house will be held during the first week of **March**.

Thomas Jackson-Read

Marketing Update

We hope you have all noticed the new billboard on the corner of David Hosea Merero and Henrik Witbooi. Print adverts will start appearing next week in The Namibian, The Republikein and the Allgemeine Zeitung, and we will have digital adverts running on The Namibian and Republikein websites for one month. An LED advert is going up in the Grove hopefully next week for one month and radio adverts should be aired starting at the end of next week. Ms. Maggie did an interview on Hit Radio and is planning on doing one on Kosmos, both will be broadcast probably next week or the following. The Radio Wave announcer will talk about WIS on air Monday the 10th around 7:50am. We've also printed invites to the IB/IGCSE Open House on 20 February and encourage you to distribute these to friends and colleagues. They are available from the office.

Please follow [@WindhoekInternationalSchool](https://www.facebook.com/WindhoekInternationalSchool) on Facebook and sign up for the event. The school is also active on Twitter and Instagram.





The IB Diploma at Windhoek's International School

The IB Diploma is the world's most widely recognised and respected university entrance qualification. Windhoek International School has been offering the IB Diploma for 20 years and is Namibia's *only* IB school.

Come and find out more about how the IB Diploma can open doors for your child to the best universities in North America, Europe and elsewhere.

IGCSE & IB Diploma Information Evening
Place: Windhoek International School
Date: Thursday, 20 February 2020
Time: 18:00

 www.wis.edu.na | #LearningAtWIS


Windhoek International School.



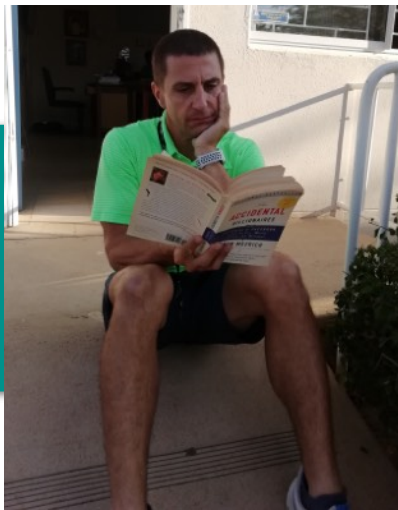
Nothing less than the world.



REMINDER:
Please collect your 2019-2020 windscreen sticker at the Office!



W.O.R.D.
Guess who is also reading during our scheduled reading lessons, Mr. Bonazzo.



WIS SECONDARY INFORMATION EVENING

**Wednesday February 12
@WIS Staffroom
18:00 - 19:30**

- Welcome to WIS (New Families)
- Edmodo/Technology@WIS
- Criterion Based Assessments - Tests - Exams
- Reporting Timeline
- SDL (Self-Directed Learning Programme)

SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED!

The graphic features a yellow background with a grid pattern. On the left, there is a logo with the letters 'C', 'A', and 'B' in colorful, rounded fonts, with three small black crosses below it. At the bottom left is a black graduation cap. On the right, there is a blue and red ruler. The WIS logo is positioned at the bottom right of the graphic.



*Pta
Valentine
Coffee*

*Feb 13th - 7am
@ Pta hut*

Meet other parents, chat
to WIS staff and enjoy
some treats



**QUIZ
NIGHT**

5 March 2020
Old Wheelers Club

Email events@spcawindhoek.org.na for more
information or swing by the SPCA to sign-up!



WINDHOEK INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL

***THE PTA IS CALLING ALL
NEW WIS PARENTS!***

***JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL
NEW PARENT
ORIENTATION AND
WELCOME AT THE PTA
HUT***

WELCOME TO WIS!
7:20AM FEBRUARY 13TH, 2020
WIS SCHOOL ORIENTATION

WIS Gala Event

Your support is needed!

Dear WIS Community,

As part of our efforts to raise \$10 million to build the school's sports zone, as presented in the Development Plan, an adults-only Gala event will be held on the evening of Saturday 9 May at the Hilton Hotel. Food and drink will be served at the 'business casual' event. More details will follow from the organising committee in due course.

As the main objective – apart of course from having a great time – is to raise funds for the sports zone, we will be hosting a live and silent auction as part of the festivities. This is where we need your support. We are looking for any in-kind donations that could be auctioned off on the night (for example, if you are a financial advisor, you could offer a free consultation. If you can cook, you could offer a prepared meal for a group – you decide the offering). In addition, we are asking if you have contacts with any sponsors who might be willing to donate services or products, especially big ticket items, to please make an introduction or secure the donation on behalf of the school.

Please click on this [Google Doc link](#) for suggested donations and the opportunity to contribute to the auction: You are also invited to donate wine to be auctioned off. We only ask that the purchase price is minimum \$100 per bottle. Please bring the wine to the School Office and be sure that your donation is noted.

Ticket prices are \$500 per person. Attendance is limited due to space restrictions so please book your tickets as soon as possible. Non-WIS-affiliated guests are welcome and it is possible to buy a table (10 guests per table). After 15 April, ticket prices will increase to \$600 per person. You can buy your tickets from the School Office or email jferreira@wis.edu.na or bstephanus@wis.edu.na for further details.

We hope we can count on your support to make this inaugural WIS Gala a memorable evening and a great source of alternative funding to help build the school's Sports Zone!

Thank you on behalf of the organising committee



We cordially invite you to
The WIS Gala and Auction Event
(Fundraising for the construction of a WIS Sports Zone)

Date: Saturday, 9 May 2020
Time: 19:30 for 20:00
Place: Hilton Hotel
Tickets: N\$500.00 pp or option to purchase a table
(Electronic Tickets: Please pay electronically)
Dress: Business-Casual
Adults Only

Tel:+264 61 241 783/ Fax: +264 61 264 777 - Schepmann Street, Pioneers Park Ext. 1, Windhoek, Namibia/ [WIS website](#)/ Email: [Reception](#)