



## Contents

- From the Director p. 1
- Primary News p. 1 - 4
- Secondary News p. 5
- Other News p. 6 - 12



## Dates to Remember

### November 2017

- **28:** Board meeting

### December 2017

- **1:** Last day for AA Term 2  
- Primary & Secondary
- **4:** Founder's Day  
- Normal School Day
- **8:** End of term 2  
- Normal School Day

# THE ORYX

*The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School*

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

### Teachers are Learners too

Nearly eighteen years ago I interviewed in a school where a Board member said to me, "Mr. MacKenzie, all this time and money schools spend on teacher professional development: we both know it's mostly wasted, don't we?"

"Aha," I thought, "devil's advocate stuff." So I vigorously defended the time and money he was referring to.

It turned out he wasn't playing devil's advocate. He meant it.

I didn't get the job.

Today WIS kids are all at home while the school spends a great deal of time (if not, on this occasion, much money) giving our teaching staff the opportunity to reflect on aspects of the work we do and why (and how) we do it. It is time very well spent. And the beneficiaries ultimately will be those very WIS kids who are now enjoying a day off.

Have a great weekend.

**Peter MacKenzie**  
**Director**

## PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

### International Day

Another International Day has come and gone and what a wonderful day it was from start to finish. The return of the flag parade and the passports added to making International Day special. Each year level's performance was representative of the country presented, was entertaining and brought smiles all around. The stalls provided interesting information about the country, had delicious food, and fun activities. Throughout the day there was a spirit of community and camaraderie and the event seemed to be enjoyed by all. Thank you again to everyone for contributing to another successful International Day.

### MAP (Measures of Academic Progress)

Last week the students in Years 2-6 were introduced to MAP, with each class having a practice session to familiarize the students as to how the testing works. Having these sessions also helped us to work out some glitches between the MAP website and our connectivity.

We began the actual MAP testing this week. All but one class completed the Reading test. (They will complete the test next week.) For Years 2-3, the test is administered in

## WEEKLY PUZZLER

Once again Sarah in 7B solved our puzzler. Great job! You can find the solution [here](#).

Here is this week's puzzler. A chicken and a half can lay an egg and a half in a day and a half. How long will it take two chickens to lay 32 eggs? Alright, go brush up on your knowledge of half chickens and half eggs, as well as ratios, and give it a try.

Please send your solution to [pfarrell@wis.edu.na](mailto:pfarrell@wis.edu.na)

New puzzles can also be submitted to [pfarrell@wis.edu.na](mailto:pfarrell@wis.edu.na)

about 20 minute sessions, while the Years 4-6 test is taken in 40 minute sessions. There is no time limit for completing the tests so if children don't finish in the block of time allowed, they have been given time to complete the test on another day.

The children seemed to enjoy the experience and showed confidence with the structure of the test. Some questions you might ask your child about their test experience this week include: *What did you like about the test? What types of questions were asked on the test? What sort of questions did you find challenging or difficult? What kinds of questions did you think were easy?* Next week the children will complete the Math test. In addition, Years 4-6 will take the Language Usage test.

**Regards,**  
**Beth Smith**

## Thank You from the PTA

We would like to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to the Embassy of Ireland, Lusaka, the Ambassador Mr. Séamus O'Grady, his wife Mary, daughter Fionnuala and Mícheál for partnering the year 9's and WIS for International day. They came all the way from Zambia to be with us, bringing their warmth, Irish accents and hospitality.



The organic smoked salmon, whole wheat soda bread and cheeses were tasted by many with pleasure. The display of books and posters and the strains of Irish music brought many curious visitors to the stall. Students had the opportunity to learn about the game of hurling.

The school was presented with 4 new books for our library, 100 Objects, Irish Literature/Writers, a pictorial account of the Easter Rising and a commemorative book from Trinity College on the Easter Rising. These books will be on display in our library whereafter you will be free to take them out and learn more about Irish history and culture.



The PTA would like to acknowledge and thank the sponsors who provided gazebos for International day this year. We appreciated the shade and could not have done this without your generosity. We trust that everything has been returned to you in the same condition that it was received.

The sponsors include the following companies and organisations:

- 17X Standard Bank
- 1X Cycletec
- DSTV
- VOLVO
- 2X BDO
- 2X Prosperity
- 1X EMED
- 4X Old Mutual
- 4X Nedbank
- 2X FNB



A well-deserved thank you to our Pioneerspark extension 1 Neighbourhood Watch. They do a sterling job raising awareness in the community and help to reduce and combat crime on our doorstep. Together we can support each other.

An enormous thank you goes to all the PTA members and friends of the PTA who helped tirelessly to get things off the ground this year. The teamwork was remarkable and is evidence of the lengths that parents are prepared to go to, ensuring and creating a nurturing school community for their children and all in it. Your commitment continues to inspire us.

**Kathleen for PTA**

## PRIMARY ART EXHIBITION

YEARS 2, 4 AND 5 HELD ON FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER. THANK YOU FOR COMING.



## Year 3B Students making Les Crêpes

PYP is fun when Specialists subjects integrate with the Units of Inquiry.. Please see below how the Integration of our second unit is still ongoing, well after the Unit is done. Learning never stops!

Year 3B Students making Les Crêpes  
(Pancake) in the French class.

**Ingredients:**

***Du lait (milk)***

***Des oeufs (eggs)***

***De la farine (flour)***

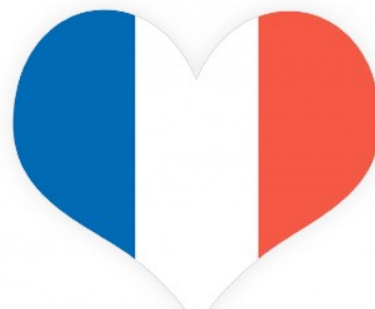
***Du sel (salt)***

***De l'huile (oil for the pan)***

***Du sucre (sugar)***

***Du chocolat (chocolate filling)***

***De la confiture (Jam filling)***



Thank you Ms Laetitia Borrioni - for showing us the step by step process for making Les crêpes, It was great to observe the students making authentic connections to the concept of change as students continue making connections about food processes.

## Junior Girls Hockey

All Welcome. GET INVOLVED!!!!

Junior girls Netball has begun! Wednesday 4.30 - 5.30



## SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

### *Council of International School - Forum on Admission and Guidance*

For the second year in a row, I am currently attending the CIS Forum on Admission and Guidance. This year, the forum takes place in Edinburgh in Scotland.

Over 350 universities from around the world are attending this seminar. The big advantage of participating in this seminar is that I will be able to meet admissions officers from universities that our students intend to apply to. Meeting them personally, facilitates a contact with the admissions officers and the personal contact can potentially be beneficial when the student applies to the university, since the admissions officer has already had a chance to get to know WIS and even some of the students.

This year, I will be meeting admissions officers from UBC (Canada), Arts University Bournemouth (UK), Boston University (USA), Clark University (USA), Emory University (USA), Georgetown University (UA), Glasgow Caledonian University (UK), University of London - Goldsmiths (UK), Imperial College London (UK), Lancaster University (UK), Maastricht University (Netherlands), McGill University (Canada), MODUL University Vienna (Austria), New York University (USA), Queen's University (Canada), Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences (Netherlands), The University of Dundee (UK), The University of Edinburgh (UK), University College London (UK) and many, many more.

What do our students want to apply for at these universities?

- Fine Arts
- Veterinary Sciences
- Law
- Environmental Sciences
- Engineering
- Psychology
- Mechanical, mechatronic, aeronautical or computational Engineering
- International Relations and other fields of study.

Being far removed from the places that many of our students will be applying for, this forum is a great opportunity for us to be noticed and to get known.

Apart from the meetings with university admissions officers, there will also be a school fair where I have the opportunity to present WIS to the admissions officers. There are also interactive sessions on current topics that are relevant to international students studying abroad:

- **Understanding And Evaluating Need-Based Financial Aid Packages For International Students**
- **Finding Your Voice: Guiding Students Through the Personal College Essay**
- **Routes To Higher Education From Career-Related, Vocational Or Skills-Based High School Programmes**
- **School Profiles: The good, the bad and the ugly**
- **Brexit, Executive Orders, Security Threats And Fear: Advising Students and Families in an Age of Uncertainty**
- **An Introduction To Higher Education In Canada**
- **IB Predicted Scores And The US Admission Process: Are we at cross purposes?**
- **From \$0 to \$60,000 In 70 Minutes: Applying for Financial Aid in the US**
- **Quiet Is Not A Dirty Word: Valuing the Contributions of Introverts in the Admissions Process**

These are certainly sessions worth deliberating about and I am looking forward to attending most of these and interacting with the different university representatives. This will hopefully be beneficial for our students when they apply to universities at the end of this year and in the future.

***Maggie Reiff***

***Secondary Principal and Career Guidance Counselor***

## What's up at WIS?

Dear WIS Community

Last Saturday our school community celebrated its International day. It was a wonderful event that brought all members of the community together. We started the day with a wonderful opening speech by, Mr. Peter MacKenzie. We were very privileged to receive a presidential speech wishing us all the best, from the **President of the Republic of Namibia**, His Excellency, Dr. Hage Geingob which focussed on our school being a global and understanding community. This was followed by a peaceful, student/family oriented and united feel for the rest of the day. A lot of hard work, energy and effort had been put into the event. The Events Committee would like to say a big thank you to all. These parties include the **PTA, all staff, parents and especially, our students.**

Two traditions were brought back this year. The flag parade which included the countries represented in our school. Our students, parents and staff proudly stepped out bearing their country clothing and flags. The other was the introduction of "passports" for each family to take to each country's represented stall.

**Below includes some of the feedback made on the passports from our students and families:**

**Our PTA prize winner: Gien Barrion (and family) - Year 1B** "My favourite country was Canada because I learned about Poutine, maple syrup, bacon and ice slushies."

**Francis Farrell - Year 1B** "My favourite country was Canada because it was the one I found out about for Year 1."

**Zara Stuart - Year 1A** "My favourite country was Croatia because I love the stamp! Also Dalmatians and I have been there."

**Reuben Smit - Year 2A** "My favourite country was New Zealand because I got some sweets."

**Luke Van Zyl - Year 2B** "My favourite country was India because the students were so creative when making their elephants."

**Sindala's family -** "Our favourite country was India because they had the most beautiful craft elephants..."

**Camila Giroud - Year 4A** "My favourite country was Canada because my sister, Charlotte sang and danced so well."

**Loze Majiedt - Year 4A** "My favourite country was New Zealand because we could do drawings and get tattoos. It was fun there!"

**Ben Cohen - Year 4A** "My favourite country was New Zealand because it was the country my class did. It has amazing food and sweet down to earth people."

**Jasmaira Kaure - Year 3B** "My favourite country was Namibia because it is a





*beautiful country, with very friendly people. No pollution! No traffic!"*

**Kyle Maramba - Year 3B** "My favourite country was Namibia because in my class I learnt all about it and it was fun. Did you know Namibia has over 16 languages?"

**Daniella - Year 5B** "My favourite country was Denmark because of the yummy meatballs."

**Abigail - Year 5** "My favourite country was New Zealand because the people at the stall were very knowledgeable about the country."

**Shamiso Queen Mawire - Year 6B** "My favourite country was Oman because they had very good service and also told us some words in Arabic!"

**Angela Kahorongo and family** "My favourite country was Samoa because of it's lovely traditional dress and food."

**Niitembu Mwetako - KG 2A** "My favourite country was India because it has diverse cultures and languages, as well as Henna tattoos and tasty samosas.

**Susan Mawire** - "My favourite country was Oman because you could get henna tattoos from the little kids, who were not professionals, but did a great job!"

**Muhee family** - "My favourite country was Nigeria because they have wonderful treats there."

**Murwira family** - "Our favourite country was the USA because they had fun games e.g. throwing a beanbag in the bear's mouth. That was really fun and entertaining."

**For more photos on International Day - check out our Facebook Page: [Windhoek International School](#)**

Best wishes

**Events Committee: Jacqueline Bassingthwaighe, Debbie Carew, Kelsey Daignault and Avril van Zyl**

## SCHOOL PHOTOS

Please pay and collect your child's school photos from their Homeroom Teacher.

The package costs N\$100.00.

Taking the school photos is not compulsory.

**DEADLINE: 4 DECEMBER**

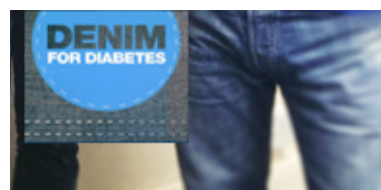






## Denim for diabetes fundraiser

We would like to thank the WIS community for getting involved in this fundraiser. We sold tickets and cupcakes to help raise funds for the less fortunate Type 1 diabetics in Namibia. We are happy to announce that we collected close to N\$5000.00 in this initiative. Our students and staff were dressed in blue and denim to raise awareness of this autoimmune disease that is increasing by the day.



Thank you again for all your efforts and support in making this day successful!!!

**Angatha Janse van Rensburg**

# Once upon a time in a land not so



## “FARAWAY...”

Date: 6th December 2017 Time: 19:00

Venue: Windhoek International School Auditorium

## Physical Education in the PYP

In the PYP, students aim to develop an understanding of concepts and skills used in different physical activities. In class, students inquire into the "BIG IDEA" through a variety of general or specific games such as Invasion Games, Racquet Sports, Striking and Fielding Games, Athletics, etc.



Year 2 - Striking and Fielding (UOI "Cool Tools")



Year 3 - 4 Racquet Sports (Basic techniques and gameplay)

Through student-initiated action, practising at home or joining an afternoon activity, can help improve technique. Students can practise individually, with a sibling or parent to improve their performance. Some of the equipment used requires little space and is inexpensive to set up.

So, encourage your child to "Get up and Move".

- Date to Remember**

08 Feb 2018 - Small Schools Athletics (Trials held in school; Team will be announced end of Nov) WIS, St. Paul's, Holy Cross Convent, Waldorf School, Highlands Primary, All Nations

**Fernando Beukes**



Technique Self-Assessment

## Christmas for Critters Shoebox Drive

The Windhoek SPCA would like to invite you to take part in this inspiring community initiative.

Our aim is to collect Christmas gifts for abandoned animals and as a positive result this project ultimately helps parents to teach their own children the joy of giving!



### HOW TO MAKE A CHRISTMAS FOR CRITTERS SHOEBOX:

- FIND AN EMPTY SHOE BOX**  
 We all have empty shoeboxes around the house or know someone who can give us one. Shoe stores usually have empty boxes to give away.
- FILL IT WITH GOODIES**  
*The following items are required*
  - \* put **N\$200** in cash in the box **PLUS**
  - \* **For our Cats:** pampers/ Friskies/ whiskers tin/ pouch food
  - \* **For our Dogs:** tin or small bag of dog food
  - \* Optional: toy/ collar lead/ brush, etc.
- DECORATE THE BOX:**  
 Wrap/ decorate the shoebox (draw on it, paint on it, cut out pictures, put stickers on it) the sky is the limit here!
- LABEL YOUR BOX:**  
 Clearly write cat or dog, depending on the gift of your choice
- WHERE TO TAKE YOUR BOX?**  
 Windhoek SPCA, Robert Mugabe Avenue  
 Put it under our Christmas tree and have your photo taken!

**Closing date: 20 December 2017**  
 Email: [spcawhk@mweb.com.na](mailto:spcawhk@mweb.com.na)

Is **N\$200** too much?  
 Club together with friends and make a box OR put in whatever you can afford!

**Target: 300 boxes**

