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Dates to Remember

May 2017

- **22 - 24:** Secondary Week A
- **25:** Ascension Day (No school)
- **26:** School closed
- **30:** Yr. 6 Exhibition Opening night
- **31:** Yr. 6 Exhibition Open to Community

June 2017

- **01:** Yr. 6 Exhibition Open to Community

THE ORYX

The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Re-Development

The recent letter that went to all parents informing them of school fees for the 2017-2018 school year made a reference to “a long-overdue renovation and refurbishment programme”. We could add to that the construction of major new facilities, but let’s not get ahead of ourselves.

In fact, the improvement of the campus has already started and is gathering pace.

New Staff Room

Few parents will have seen it or know it is there but the most recent addition on campus is a completely new Staff Room. It is towards the rear of the school beyond the Medical Room.



For too long, a space where teachers can meet, eat their lunch, grab a coffee, and catch up with each other has been a succession of temporary facilities in converted classrooms or even cupboards. In fact, we started the school year without even that as the appointment of an additional teacher meant that our last “spare” classroom was claimed.

So we took the decision to resolve this issue once and for all and the result is a



100m² purpose-built Staff Room. It is much more than just a place where teachers can put up their weary feet for five minutes. It is where morning briefings are conducted, full staff meetings can be held, training conducted, information shared, and ideas exchanged. A venue where the teaching staff can associate and interact is an informal but nonetheless essential part of how we collaborate and reinforce a sense of shared purpose. Teachers do not do their work in isolation but as part of a greater whole. Sharing a coffee or an anecdote with a colleague from the other side of the school can have important and long-lasting value.

PTA "Hut"

Well, it won't be a hut for much longer. The wooden structure beside the admin building has served us well for far longer than it should but it is time to replace it. It will be gone shortly after the school closes in June and by the time we reopen in July it will have been replaced by a larger brand-new building where the PTA can conduct their business without feeling like they are in a shed at the bottom of someone's garden.

Auditorium

The Auditorium was built in 2001 but it is unclear what has been done to it since then. (I think the answer is, not much.) What is clear is that it is a very valuable facility and that we could get even more out of it if we upgraded the technology and renovated the interior. So we have earmarked a substantial sum to invest in the Auditorium and work will commence in July.

Containers

And lastly, it is the least of our recent initiatives but it is the most visible. I hope you like the new mural on the side of the two containers reminding students (and parents?) of the ten attributes of the IB Learner Profile.

Here is a daily reminder of what we aspire to.



Please Note

Next week is a three-day week (There is no school on Thursday or Friday) so there will be no Oryx. The next issue will be on Friday 2nd June.

With best wishes

Peter MacKenzie

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Re-register your child for the 2017-2018 Academic Year

Deadline: Wednesday, 31 May 2017!

PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

If you've dropped your children off at school or picked them up after school this week, you probably couldn't help but notice the Learner Profile displayed on our mobile offices. The IB describes the aim of all its programmes is to, "develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world." (*Making the PYP Happen*) The Learner Profile is for all members of the school community.

Each week during the Primary assembly, children are recognized for exemplifying one of the Learner Profile attributes or one of the Attitudes. The words are used during the school day as children inquire into new units, reflect on their learning, try to work out their differences, reflect on their behaviour, and in many other ways. Now that the Learner Profile is very visible for all to see, consider choosing an attribute each day, or one for the week, and ask your child how he/she has been caring, principled, an inquirer, thinker, knowledgeable, a risk-taker, balanced, reflective, a communicator or open-minded during the day. You might offer how you have exhibited a particular attribute as well. It could provide for some interesting conversation on the ride home from school.

With about five weeks remaining in the school year there are a few friendly reminders.

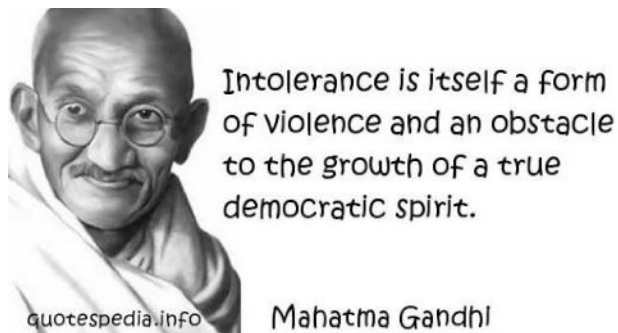
- The last day of school is **June 21**. Dismissal will be at **11:40**. Please inform the homeroom teacher and the office if your child will be leaving prior to the scheduled end of the academic year.
- Semester 2 progress reports will be sent home between June 20-22.

- Please do not make requests for your child to have a specific teacher for the new school year. There are many factors that go into making the class lists and the we consider very carefully the makeup of the classes.

Regards,
Beth Smith

Religious Intolerance

Did you know that religious intolerance can lead to violence?



More than 16 million - 32 million people around the world have died due to wars which are caused by religious intolerance.

Nearly 50% of countries increased their religious intolerance between 2009 and 2010, and only 32% saw decreases.


Many governments today can still include their favorite religious groups and can ban some whenever they like.

We are three students from different countries, different backgrounds, different religions - Christian, Hindu and Muslim. Seeing what is happening in the world because of religious intolerance we decided to do our PYP Exhibition, a project that year 6 students are required to complete, about one of the most important celebrations in our religion, learn about their history, compare them and find the similarities and differences among them, but most importantly appreciate each other's culture and traditions. We can set an example for our community, by showing that being different from each other does not mean we can not tolerate each other or respect each other.

Religious Intolerance- *When a group refuses to tolerate practices, persons, or beliefs on religious grounds.*

Religious intolerance poses a threat to the future and the only way to prevent catastrophe is through informed communication and education of...

- The similarities and differences of the World's most common religions.
- The causes of religious intolerance
- The effects of religious intolerance



<http://www.shirtaday.com/shirt/coexist/458>

Here are a few ways for us to take into account when we meet up with someone different to us.

- We can treat things that are sacred to other people's religions with respect.
- So far as it does not offend our own religious understanding, we can observe the customs of other people when we are their guests.
- We must never ridicule another person's manner of worship.

- We can avoid arguing and quarreling over religious ideas.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1106722>

<https://passnownow.com/tag/causes-of-religious-intolerance/>

<http://slideplayer.com/slide/8373107/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/475552041882240436/>

<https://www.dosomething.org/facts/11-facts-about-religious-discrimination>

By: ANUSHKA ARYA , ARBAZ FERDIANSAH and JAMAL SAWADOGO.



Year 6 Exhibition

Our central idea for the exhibition of this year is, " People around the world can express their cultures, beliefs and religion through food."

Our research inquired into how people use food to express themselves from different cultures. We researched the traditional food of five different cultures; Dutch, Arabic, Italian; French and Ovambo.

We are sharing the recipe of one of the Dutch traditional dishes with you, today:

*For those with a tummy rumbling;
Don't haste and get yourself tumbling;*

*Expect only the best;
Your tastebuds will do the rest;*

*A dish for a king;
which praises can only be sing;*

*'Dutch snert' will set you alight;
with smiles to the chefs delight.*

As an action we conducted a tuck shop survey. If you are interested in the results of this survey and our research, please visit our exhibition stall on Wednesday, 31st of May and Thursday, the 1st of June!

We would also like to extend our thanks to everyone that participated in our survey!

Jovahn Nel and Tangi Nghipondoka
Year 6 A



"Right click is your favorite friend!" or is it? **Academic Honesty** is an important issue. [CLICK HERE](#) to find out how your child's work can show integrity and respect content found online.



HOLLANDSE ERWTENSOEP (SNERT)

For the soup:

1.75 litre water	300 gr dried split peas
100 gr fresh sliced pork belly or thick-cut bacon	
1 pork chop	1 stock cube (veg/chick)
2 celery sticks	2/3 carrots, peeled & sliced
1 large potato peeled & sliced	1 small onion, chopped
1 small leek, sliced	¼ celeriac, cubed
Chopped smoked sausage or frankfurters/wiener sausages	
Salt & pepper to taste	



How to make:

1. In a large soup pot, bring water, split peas, pork belly or bacon, pork chop, and stock cube to a boil. Reduce the heat to a simmer, cover and let cook for 45 minutes, stirring occasionally and skimming off any foam that rises to the top.
2. Remove the pork chop, debone and thinly slice the meat. Set aside.
3. Add the celery, carrots, potato, onion, leek and celeriac to the soup. Return to the boil, reduce the heat to a simmer and let cook, uncovered, for another 30 minutes, adding a little extra water if the ingredients start to stick to the bottom of the pot.
4. Add the smoked sausage for the last 15 minutes of cooking time. When the vegetables are tender, remove the bacon and smoked sausage, slice thinly and set aside.
5. If you prefer a smooth consistency, purée the soup with a stick blender. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Add the meat back to the soup, setting some slices of rookworst aside.
6. Serve in heated bowls or soup plates, garnished with slices of rookworst and chopped celery leaf.

SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

We have different ways of learning

Your child might have talked to you about different learning styles.

In school we do certain exercises with our students to let them find out what their learning style is. Depending on a person's learning style, there are different things that could be put in place to help the person learn with more ease.

There are three main learning styles we at school try to accommodate in our daily lives:

Visual (spatial):

- You prefer using pictures, images, mind maps, drawings when you learn.
- The use of colour helps learning.
- Associations - 'visual words' help remembering.
- Use highlighters to emphasise important words or phrases.
- Write down key words, ideas or instructions.

**Auditory (aural):**

- Listening and speaking makes you learn.
- The use of repetition is helping learning.
- Reread your notes out loud.
- You could record your notes and listen to them when studying.
- Talk it out - have a discussion with peers to enhance your understanding of a topic.
- Explain your notes to another auditory learner.

Kinesthetic (tactile):

- Hands on learners.
- Learn best through figuring out things by hand.
- Use real life experiences, examples, applications and case studies to learn information.
- Redo lab experiments or projects.

- Utilise pictures and photographs to consolidate ideas.

For more detailed information, you could also go to:

www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/learning-styles.shtml

What learning style do you think I am after having read this article?

Regards,

Maggie Reiff



Secondary School End of year information

Please note the following important dates with regards to the last weeks of Secondary School:

- **May reports:** to be sent to parents on the 29th May - these reports inform about the current progress of a student and give advice on areas in need of strengthening and areas that are strong.
- **Internal examination:**
 - ❖ **Year 7 - 9:** exams start on Tuesday, the 13th June and end on the 20th of June. Students finish school at 11:50 each day and should be picked up at 11:50.
 - ❖ **Year 10:** exams start with Art & Design on the 9th of June and finish on the 20th of June. Students only come to school when they write exams and can leave after their last exam session each day.
 - ❖ **Year 12 :** exams start on the 8th of June and finish on the 16th. Students come to their exam sessions but can leave when they do not write an examination.
- **Year 12 Group 4 Project:** Monday 19th (whole day), Tuesday, 20th (whole day), Wednesday, 21st until 10:30.
- **Last day of school:** 21st June - school closes at 11:40.
 - Students return their books (they will be receiving exit slips that need to be signed by the teachers upon return of books or school materials).
 - **Please note: No books will be accepted at reception at any time to be returned to teachers. The office does not**

Last Day of School

pencils – tiny
erasers – flat
glue – empty
folders – fat
crayons – broken
desk – neat
memories – forever
year – complete

© Amy LV

know which books need to be returned and is instructed not to accept any textbooks.

- Students need to return their textbooks to their specific subject teachers and have teachers sign the exit slip.
- Missing materials have to be replaced.
- **No final transcripts will be released unless all school materials have been returned and outstanding fees paid.**
- There will be a final assembly from 11:00 - 11:40 in the auditorium.

Secondary Inter House

There was an almighty roar from the sports fields on Tuesday afternoon. Lions won the overall competition as the teams played each other in Football and Volleyball matches. Thanks to all the students who gave their best efforts throughout the matches.



A bus ride to France

with Ms. Catherine Mousseau

In this week's 'Person of the week' column, let me introduce you to a charming personality I so admire and have the privilege to talk about- Ms. Catherine Mousseau.



Did you know that Ms. Catherine was born on 19/03/1980 in a small village of Andreze in western France which has just 2000 people in the community. Growing up in the village, Ms. Catherine had a wonderful childhood enjoying her favorite foods and the company of friends and family. Her favorite foods are vegetarian lasagne, Italian food, Mexican food, quesadilla and avocado. As early as aged 12, Ms. Catherine loved to handle kids and always wanted to have some of her own. She has a lot of affection towards France as she visits France at least once a year. Ever thought why Ms. Catherine is so fit? Because she is a brilliant long distance runner.

She is a very hardworking person and would love to instill this habit in her two little daughters, Salome and Candice. All of us have one habit that we just want to get rid of. Want to know Ms. Catherine's?

One habit that Ms. Catherine would love to change is saying '*alors*' (then) when she starts a sentence!

Here are some more fun facts about Ms. Catherine:

- She is yet to fall in love with a dog or cat and we wish her good luck with that.
- She is in love with books so much so that if she weren't a teacher she would be a librarian
- There is one person in this world that she would like to see every day- Ms. Laetitia (now we know!)

Let me tell you an interesting tale of Ms. Catherine when she was new in Namibia. A very close friend was visiting her in Namibia. At a restaurant one day, they were both having a conversation out loud in french, discussing their lives and sharing secrets etc. At the end of her meal a lady sitting next to them walked up to her and said "Tu parle en francais aussi?" (do you also speak French?). Ms Catherine gave her a jaw-dropping gaze. Her whole conversation was overheard by an unknown lady and she had learnt a life lesson!

Ms. Catherine likes Namibia and loves visiting the Epupa Falls. Other holiday destination on her list are Canada and Asia - I guess she loves travelling. She also loves WIS. Her most memorable memory at WIS has been the recent Yr. 11 farewell assembly. Any guesses who her most favorite year group is?

She simply loves people and finds Mother Teresa an inspiration because of her care and affection towards the needy. Though in her free time she loves to read, cook and hit the gym, she gets most worked up about racism. Ms. Catherine was selected by FNCC ministry to work in Namibia and she would like to make the best use of the opportunity to be part of a student's success. Nothing can be more selfless than that. Thank you Ms. Catherine for being a part of our lives, introducing me to a wonderful language and for being such a fun teacher.

Varun Srivastava - Year 8A

MADE

I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY THAT SWIMMING IS NOT JUST A SPORT BUT A LIFE SKILL, IT IS A VERY TOUGH SPORT PEOPLE SAY IT IS NOT BUT IT IS .

HELLO EVERYONE MY NAME IS MARTHA KALI .AS SOME PEOPLE MAY KNOW THE YEAR 6S ARE DOING EXHIBITION AND MY TOPIC IS SWIMMING AND HOW IT HELPS WITH STRESS



WITH



I KNOW THAT EVERY PARENT HAS STRESS WELL SOME PARENTS, BUT I ALSO KNOW A WONDERFUL WAY FOR YOU TO RELIEVE STRESS AND IT'S SWIMMING . SWIMMING IT'S SELF IS A VERY RELAXING SPORT BECAUSE WHAT I HAVE HEARD IS THAT TEENAGERS TODAY HAVE THE SAME AMOUNT OF STRESS THAT MENTAL ILLNESS WAS KNOWN FOR PEOPLE IN THE 1950,S (WHO) . WATER IS VERY SOOTHING AND PARENTS DESERVE TO RELAX . SO THAT IS IT PLEASE TRY SWIMMING IT CAN BE VERY RELAXING.

