



THE ORYX

The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School

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Dates to Remember

April

- **29:** Science Fair Prize Giving

May

- **1-6:** School Closed
- **25:** Africa Day - Public Holiday
- **27:** IBDP Dinner

FROM THE DIRECTOR

"An International Community of Learners"

This is how the school is proud to describe itself and it has never been more true than now.

A recent audit tells us that this year we have had no fewer than 52 nationalities represented in the school. Around half our students are Namibian with the other half coming from 50+ countries.

It is this rich diversity that gives the school its unique character. The experience of interacting daily with people and peoples whose stories are not our own cannot fail to open minds and generate mutual understanding and respect.

With best wishes

Peter MacKenzie

Children whose fees have not been settled in full for the 2015-2016 school year will not be permitted to re-enrol until all outstanding amounts have been cleared.

PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

During this semester many classes have taken field trips to such places as Okapuka, FNCC, Botanical Garden, Animal Haven, The Habitat Center, The Owela Museum, NARREC, the City of Windhoek, and even to the movies to watch the "Jungle Book". The purpose of these field trips is to enhance student learning. The places visited serve as a primary source for inquiry and research. They also reinforce that learning can be fun and interesting.

Several Year levels have gone on field trips to the same place as other Year levels. However the focus of the trips has been different and viewed through varying lenses. Going on a field trip to watch the "Jungle Book" movie is a prime example.

The Year 4 classes' Unit of Inquiry has been Sharing the Planet. The central idea is: Living things depend on each other and their environment for their survival. The students viewed the "Jungle Book" from the perspective of the environment, different ecosystems and interdependence.

Sharing the Planet is also the Unit of Inquiry for the Year 3 classes. Their central



Teacher Feature

Charne De' Ath - Year 4B

My name is Charne De' Ath and I come from South Africa. I started teaching at WIS at the beginning of 2012 where I was employed as a Middle School teacher.

The subjects I taught were English, Social Studies, Health and Physical Education. When the academic year started in August 2014, I got the position to teach in the Primary School at WIS.

I pursued my studies in Education at the Free State University in South Africa. I studied B-Ed Intermediate phase where I also specialised in subjects such as English and Human Movement Sciences to teach higher grades too.

During my studies I discovered my love for teaching and I could not think of another career I would have been interested in. They say teachers are born to teach and I feel this was my calling ever since I was a young child.

One of the important things in life is family and friends. Being away from home my friends here at WIS have grown to become my family which I am very thankful for.

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idea is: All living things go through a process of change. Their next Unit of Inquiry is How We Express Ourselves with the central idea being: People express themselves through their beliefs, values and cultures. The Year 3 students will be viewing the movie looking for how the living things interact with each other, and also from a language perspective: real and fantasy parts of the story, theme, problems and resolutions.

As you will read in another section of this week's Oryx, the Unit of Inquiry for the KG2 classes is How We Express Ourselves. During their unit these students will be looking at different ways of telling a story, and using their imagination. Seeing the "Jungle Book" gives everyone a common point of discussion for imagination. They also will connect Mowgli's journey to their year-long unit of Where We Are in Place and Time.

Next week the KG1 classes will be seeing the movie to help them reflect on their previous Unit of Inquiry, Sharing the Planet, during which they looked at the change of living and nonliving things and how the environment can influence change. Their current unit is How We Organise Ourselves. Some of the Learner Profile attributes and Attitudes for the unit include cooperation, independence and open-minded. The students will be able to see these attributes displayed by the characters in the movie and thus provide a springboard for class discussions.

Thank you parents, guardians and caregivers for supporting your children's participation in their class field trips.

"Nothing beats an exciting hands-on experience to deepen learning. The magic of a field trip isn't just the subject. It's a break in the routine and adventure that opens up children's minds to new things." - Anonymous.

Kind regards,
Beth Smith

Educational value of the field trips!

Field trip to the cinema to watch 'Jungle Book'



The school field trips give students educational experiences away from their regular school environment. Sometimes field trips are part of the formative assessment and sometimes, part of the unit reflections.

Our school provides field trips because they see these experiences as

Teacher Feature continued

Not only do I spend my free time with friends, but I also have a passion for running. By training for marathons and ultra marathons, I have had the great opportunity to see Namibia's beauty.

I always challenge my learners to set goals for themselves and I believe to do the same. So, this year I have set a very big goal for myself regarding my running hobby.

Teaching should be fun and enjoyable, I believe the more fun learners have the more they will want to learn. Sometimes I feel teaching is a thankless job, but it is one that has so many rewards too.

Seeing learners achieve their goals inspires me to be a better teacher. All the learners who I have had the opportunity to teach has taught me many life lessons in one way or the other. I love my job and I am thankful to be a teacher.

Some interesting facts you might not have known about me:

- My favourite food: Chicken salad
- My favourite colour: Purple
- What makes me happy? Spending time with my husband and friends
- Hamburger or Hotdog? Chicken burger
- Coke or Pepsi? Coffee, coffee and more coffee
- Inside or outside? Hazel eyes, can't stop talking...
- Summer or Winter? Summer
- Kitkat or BarOne? Dark chocolate

central to their educational mission. WIS does not exist solely to provide economically useful skills in numeracy and literacy, but also to produce lifelong learners who appreciate art and culture.

Kindergarten 2 students went this week to watch the premiere of the movie "Jungle Book". This was used to strengthen our link with the unit of "How We Express Ourselves". Students were looking at different ways of telling a story, and using our imagination. This field trip connected as well to our year long unit about "Journeys", where we physically went on a journey to the cinema and maybe for some of our students, an imaginary journey through the jungle. Students strongly connected with the Jungle Book character - Mowgli and his journey in the story.



Many parents are hesitant to allow their children to watch TV. However, movies are a way for children to experience different life events and be exposed to different viewpoints without being put in danger. Of course, movies should be monitored and, if they upset the children, they can be turned off. They are a safe form of entertainment for children, and a way for children to learn. "Jungle Book" is a movie full of action, beautiful animation and full of different emotions. Always remember to talk to your child about what he/she just saw. Ask questions and help them understand what they have just viewed.

In critic reviews we read:

"Jungle Book is shot beautifully, and has a fantastic sense of wonder within the world being created. That translates into big-screen magic." Full review - Eric Eisenberg· [Cinemablend](#)

"The Jungle Book is magnificent - honoring its literary and animated roots with thrilling action, groundbreaking effects, and heart-warming drama." Full review - Ben Kendrick· [Screen Rant](#)

"Hyperreal digital animation meets old-fashioned storytelling in this faithful remake, which loses the songs but brings new, ingenious twists on the original." Full review - Peter Bradshaw· [The Guardian](#)



Here are the students opinion after the movie:

I was happy for Mowgli because he made it home' Guilherme

I was feeling sad and scared because the little boy had to go away from home

**Saturday Morning
Dodge-ball Club with**

Mr Jackson-Read

**NEW TIME:
9 AM until 11 AM**

**Y3 -
Y6
-
All**



The Prize Giving of the Science Fair will be on the 29 April at 10:20 in the Auditorium. Parents are cordially invited to attend this event.

and the 'red flower was everywhere'- Daria

'I was happy to see the baby wolves and I like the movie. It was good. I was feeling sad and happy'. - Leo

So...If you haven't watched the "Jungle Book"- please do so. It's worth it!
Beata Stephanus

Field trip to the FNCC with the Kindergarten 2

On Wednesday the 20th April, the Kindergarten 2 classes had the opportunity to go to the Franco Namibian Cultural Center (FNCC) to meet two artists and view their masterpieces. A humbling experience for the students who are about to embark on their own creative journey through the disciplinary theme "How we express ourselves".



The first exhibition we saw was by Karl-Pieter Farao, called "The Sands of Time". The artwork is made from pieces of nature found in the South, East, West and North of Namibia. This exhibition brings together all the different types of nature found in Namibia's diverse land. Karl-Pieter was delighted to walk around with the children and answer their questions about his artwork.

The second exhibition was by Chantel Khambunde, called "Doodles". Chantel is a WIS alumni and she too was pleased to walk with children and answer their inquisitive questions. The children were curious to experience art where others helped the artist complete the masterpiece.

We would like to thank Andre Gariseb and Alexandrine Guinot for the great opportunity to meet the various artists and for the patience in coordinating the children through the center. To end the fantastic experience, the children received a special treat from the FNCC in the form of a delicious home made choc chip biscuit and a juice.

Some of the student reflections:

- "Some of the pictures had a lot of colour and it made me angry" - Glenda*
- "I liked seeing how the artist used sand on the Namibian picture" - Nathan*
- "There was lots of different stuff on the pictures." - Alexander*
- "The doodles were nice because we could help colour in." - Stella*
- "I like going to see different art!" - Endi*

SPCA BLANKET DRIVE

WINTER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER AND WE ARE IN SERIOUS NEED OF BLANKETS!

We really appreciate every blanket or towel we get; they get used to keep our furry orphans warm and comfortable!

PLEASE HELP US BY SPONSORING ANY BLANKETS OR TOWELS YOU CAN, OLD OR NEW!

They should just be in a good condition!

We invite all schools & business to see who can sponsor us the most! #gameon

Always remember: "The EARTH without ART is just EH!"

Jaqueline Ferreira

YEAR 2 - WATER SAVING!

Dear WIS community,

We hope you have been taking note of the Year 2 water saving posters in the Oryx. As our current unit is, "How we express ourselves", we decided to create a water saving awareness story called, "The Water Wizard of Windhoek". Please go to the link below to listen to 2B read their story.

[The Water Wizard of Windhoek](#)



Till Partner (2B) took third place in his first triathlon. Congratulations!

Year (2B) playing with SPCA puppies and they all bought green shirts to support the cause.

SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

Another Goodbye

Today we are saying goodbye to our Year 11 students who will embark on their Final IGCSE examination as of the 3rd of May.

This two year journey was probably the first real challenge to many of these young adults in ensuring that they meet the expectations and challenges of a programme that already seeks students to be independent and self-motivated learners. As indicated on the cie.org.uk website, "Cambridge helps students become confident, responsible, reflective, innovative and engaged. Ready to tackle the demands of tomorrow's world, capable of shaping a better world for the future."



The Year 11s "kidnapped" their teachers and took them for a cupcake and coffee. Here Ms. Rubbert and Ms. Benson are "escorted" to the waiting bus.



Now it is Ms. Sharma's turn

This fits in well with WIS' Mission and Vision and our aim to prepare our students to be able to tackle the challenges and make the best choices for their own future.

Often seen as a rote learning programme, CIE is evolving to become a service provider that helps prepare young people for their futures in further education.

Attaining the IGCSE Certificate prepares our students to move into the rigorous IB Diploma programme if they achieve a C-Average in their final examination. It does also prepare young people to move into Foundation Programmes and some tertiary programmes directly, if requirements are met.

Some US and Canadian colleges and universities will accept learners with five Cambridge IGCSEs at grade C or above depending on individual institutions' requirements. In the UK, admission into universities with the IGCSE Certificate is mostly into Foundation programmes. South Africa does also establish more and more Foundation programmes where students are prepared for the specific degree course they want to embark on.



Relief - teachers were treated to cupcakes, cakes and coffee, tea and juice.

With the IGCSE qualification and reasonable grades, students have crossed the first hurdle to their further education. WIS congratulates our students and wishes them well - wisdom, an open mind, a caring attitude and the drive to succeed and reach for the stars.



Last group photo - Class of 2016

We also want to wish the Year 9s all the best. They have just completed their CIE Checkpoint Secondary 1 examination in Science, English and Mathematics. We hope that these exams were a good preparation for the IGCSE course they will enter in August.

Kind regards,
Maggie Reiff

The Year 8B Trip to Okonjima

“What have you done for your world today”



In March this year our class, the Year 8Bs, visited the Okonjima Country School. Our Homeroom teacher from the previous Year 7, Ms Nadine, is now teaching at the Okonjima school, with the local children. One month before the trip we started to communicate with Ms Nadine about her new work and about what it is like at Okonjima.

We heard from her that the kids in her class are in need of many things, like school supplies and stationary. As we wanted to help and bring something with us, we started collecting stationary and all year 8B students brought lots of things like soccer balls, snacks and toys. For the eleven pupils in Ms Nadine's class we packed eleven shoe boxes, one for each child. Two of us were responsible for one child together. The present boxes were wrapped in nice gift paper and we decorated them beautifully. From Ms Nadine we knew the names of the eleven children, who were all between six and seven years old.



Finally we went for our class trip to visit Okonjima and met the kids at the School. As planned each of the children received a present. They were very much excited. Everybody helped his/her student from the farm school to open their presents and we talked and played with them. It felt really good to help and support those kids and everyone was joyful. Our class also played a soccer match against the kids from Okonjima. Most of them played soccer very well and we lost. But that did not really matter. We have had a great day!

Okonjima was very good. Full with exciting stuff about nature and animals, a night walk without torch, and many more things. Ms Helen and Marvin, our Okonjima teachers were great and we had lots of good fun. It was a wonderful experience, and the Okonjima philosophy and motto: “What have you done for your world today” made lots of sense.

Lene Liebenberg, Nishant Shejwal, Fiona Farrell & Christina Krappmann

WIS Students to represent their country in Italy

Erik Rubbert (Year 11) and Liam Strydom (Year 10) have been selected to play for the Namibian team in the 2016 Inline Hockey World Championships. This annual event, hosted by different countries around the world, takes place in early June this year in a town near Venice.

This is Erik's first time to be representing his country internationally while Liam has done so twice before. Both boys have been playing inline hockey for 8 years and will be playing in the Under 21 Junior Men Division. The full compliment of the Namibian team consists of 12 players, 3 goalies, 1 coach and a team manager.



Erik says he feels ready for this prestigious challenge, his only concern being that "we'll eat too much pizza." Liam feels happy and confident "because the team spirit is good."

Your WIS family is proud of you guys and we wish you every success and a memorable experience.

Sharon Gorelick

What? You missed the first showcase...

Do not worry, next week we have:

- **Monday: Year 8 students performing Monster Garden**
- **Tuesday: Year 9 students performing a play by Blessing**
- **Thursday: Year 10 students performing "Rumours" by Neil Simon**

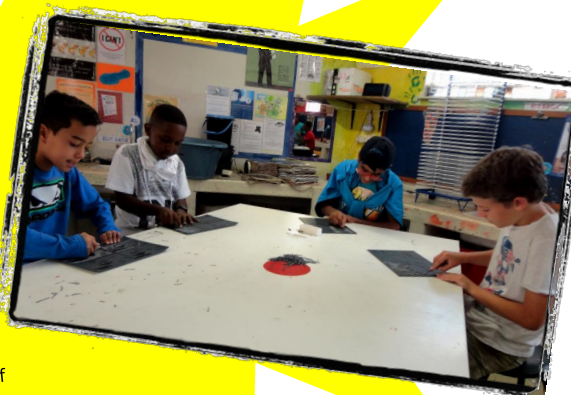


depARTSment Corner

Year 7 ART: Printmaking

Cutting a linoleum sheet for relief printmaking teaches us to work with precision, enhances our hand-eye coordination and helps us to persevere.

It is a loooong and tedious process. In contrast, the feeling of achievement when printing at the end of it is the artistic equivalent of instant gratification.



The Circus is coming to Town!



ROLL UP! ROLL UP!

COME ONE! COME ALL!

Thursday, 16 June 2016
10:00

Windhoek International School

More details to follow soon!



**U.S. Mission
Community
YARD SALE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 30th
2 BASSINGTHWAIGHTE
9:00AM—1:00PM
Sellers may set-up as early as 8am
N\$100 per table
Please RSVP to Michelle Brown (CLO) Friday, April 22nd if you wish
to sell or attend
081 124 1979 or brownmg2@state.gov

Music & Milkshakes




23 April

La Brocante Café
Macadam St.
10:00 - 13:00

Free Live Band: WIS Musicians | Kids Jumping Castle

City of many faces **City of Windhoek**
Vision: To enhance the quality of life of all our people



ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

- Watering of lawns, flowers, vegetables, etc. is strictly prohibited
- No washing of cars (at home) other than utilising certified car washes
- Pool covers are mandatory and no filling of private pools are allowed
- No water features, fountains, ponds, etc. are to be operated or filled

Residents are expected to familiarise themselves with the full extent of the CoW Drought Response Plan, in particular restrictions applicable to the current Water Crisis. Perpetrators risk suspension of supply and a penalty of N\$ 2000.00

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