



THE ORYX

The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School

FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Dates to Remember

May 2018

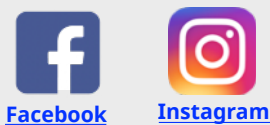
- **25:** Africa Day - Public Holiday, school closed
- **31:** Reregistration Deadline

June 2018

- **01:** Secondary - Last day of Afternoon Activities
- **08:** Primary - Last day of Afternoon Activities



VISIT US ON:



GDPR

On 25th May 2018 (i.e. tomorrow) an important new piece of legislation will become law in all twenty-eight countries of the European Union. This is the **General Data Protection Regulation** (GDPR).

It applies to all EU citizens and it applies to all organisations that hold data on EU citizens wherever they are in the world.

It therefore applies to WIS.

If you are not an EU citizen, you can ignore it. But if you are an EU citizen or your partner is or your child is, you need to be aware of GDPR.

You should today have received a letter from the school explaining GDPR in more detail. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Peter MacKenzie

RE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE!
 Re-register by 31st May. A late fee of N\$750 will be charged for all forms received after this date.

WEEKLY PUZZLER

One of our parents solved last week's puzzler. Well done!

Come on now students, show us what you've got!

Here we go. A swimming pool has four taps. The first can fill the entire pool with water in two days, the second - in three days, the third - in four days, and the last one can fill the pool in 6 hours.

How long will it take to fill the pool using all 4 taps together?

Please send solutions, or any fun and interesting puzzlers to pfarrell@wis.edu.na

pfarrell@wis.edu.na

**PRIMARY PRINCIPAL**

At this time of the school year, I always find myself questioning where the year has gone and thinking there is so much to be done in the time that remains. While the end of the school year seems to still be in the distant future, it's just four weeks away.

Some of the Primary students will be leaving WIS and going to new schools either in Windhoek or in another country. It's important that those who are leaving have closure to their time at WIS and also that those who are returning to WIS have closure with their friends who are leaving. At school we support the students with this transition by making goodbye cards, setting time aside on the child's last day for doing something special, acknowledging the leaving children at assembly, and meeting with Ms Sharon to talk about what they look forward to as well as what they are going to miss. When we know in advance of the actual date of a child's last day of school, we can plan accordingly.

Some suggestions for how you can prepare your child for transitioning to a new school include:

- Acknowledge your child's emotions about moving to a new school or another country.
- Talk about what your child looks forward to in the new school, what will be missed about WIS, and any worries he/she may have.
- Schedule playdates with close friends - they might create a scrapbook or video about their friendship and include photos and a list or description of favorite activities they've done together.
- Get contact details (email addresses, phone numbers) for your child's friends and share your contact details so that they can keep in touch.



Similar suggestions can be applied to helping your child whose friend is moving to a new school or to another country:

- Acknowledge your child's emotions about his/her friend's moving,
- Talk about what your child has enjoyed about their friendship and what will be missed; include a discussion about the friends he/she will continue to have at WIS and who might become a new friend;
- Schedule a playdate with the friend who is leaving - they might create a scrapbook or video about their friendship and include photos and a list or description of favorite activities they've done together;
- Get contact details (email addresses, phone numbers) of the friend who is leaving and share your contact details so that the children can keep in touch.

If you know that your child will be leaving WIS in the next month, please inform your child's teacher, Ms Carol (cheimstadt@wis.edu.na), and Ms Catherine (reception@wis.edu.na) so we can ensure that your child has the chance to have closure for his/her time at WIS and give your child a proper farewell.

**Regards,
Beth Smith**

Thank You!

Dear WIS community,

A heartfelt thank you for all the donations for the Winter Charity Drive. These warm items will be delivered to Naankuse to be distributed to communities in need in the first week of June. Our Entrepreneurial Club has been working hard with Primary student volunteers to make their sleeping bags.



A special thanks goes out to **Graigory Cloete (Year 10 student)** whose family donated N\$400 towards the drive.

A thanks goes out to the Knitting Club - who have donated the scarves they have knitted to this charity.

Please help us make many families cosy and warm this winter with blanket, sock and clothing donations.

Avril Van Zyl

Year 6 Exhibition Project

Some of you may know, the Year 6s are doing their Exhibition! We chose the concept Physical Health Through Sports. And our Central Idea is "People express emotions and passions physically and mentally." We will be taking action by showing people that Physical Health can be fun. We will show you different ways to have fun through sports. Be a Risk-Taker and join us for some fun and games!

~Kgosi, Ali, Zuleika and Zoe

Let's Get Moving Games!



Come and join us for some fun and games!

Where? At the big field

When? Tuesday 29th and Thursday 31 of May








Time? Second break (11:40-12:00)

Who? Year 4, 5 and 6

We will provide fresh water, bring your water bottles for a fill up!

Snakes of Namibia

On Monday, 21st May 2018, Mr. Francois Theart, from Snakes of Namibia, conducted a snake awareness programme for Primary students from Years 2 to 6. It was an informative session with live and venomous snakes for all to see. Mr. Francois shared information about what to do when one is confronted with snakes, why snakes are important and how snakes are afraid of humans as much as humans are afraid of them. The snakes we learnt about (and saw) were:

 <p>Black Mamba</p>	 <p>Spitting cobra (Zebra snake)</p>	 <p>Puff Adder</p>	 <p>Cape Cobra</p>																		
 <p>Boomslang</p>	 <p>Python</p>	 <p>Angolan Cobra</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">CONTACT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ipinge Agapitus</td> <td>081 3098 756</td> </tr> <tr> <td>François Theart</td> <td>081 2900 343</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mathilcie Brassine</td> <td>081 7588 132</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leevi Nanyeni</td> <td>081 2482 602</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Félix Vallat</td> <td>081 4535 855</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ethne Engelking</td> <td>085 297 7334</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">snakesofnamibia@gmail.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">f Snakes of Namibia</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Contacts</p>	CONTACT		Ipinge Agapitus	081 3098 756	François Theart	081 2900 343	Mathilcie Brassine	081 7588 132	Leevi Nanyeni	081 2482 602	Félix Vallat	081 4535 855	Ethne Engelking	085 297 7334	snakesofnamibia@gmail.com		f Snakes of Namibia	
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Some advices that Mr.Francois gave all of us were::

When in the proximity of snakes:

- Most snake bites happen to people who want to kill them.
- Leave the snake alone, don't bother it.
- Don't try to provoke it.
- Don't try to run away.
- Stand absolutely still when you see a snake, snakes usually see humans as objects.
- Don't try to capture it.
- Contact a snake catcher or the Ministry of Environment.

Snake catcher contacts:

Francois Theart: **081 290 0343**, email: francois.theart@gmail.com

Eugene Struwig: **081 486 7305**

Veena Nambiar



AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES END DATES:
SECONDARY - last day 1 June 2018
PRIMARY - last day 8 June 2018

Year 3B students celebrating Africa Day!



SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

A special event - the IBDP Dinner

On Saturday, we celebrated our annual International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme students' farewell from school at Heja Lodge. A memorable event indeed for all involved - graduates, parents and families, teachers and the school as a whole. It was a beautiful event with a festive atmosphere. After the official part, we were served an excellent dinner.

A special word of gratitude goes to the graduates' parents and teachers for supporting them through these last two years. It certainly was a rocky road at times and sometimes the end seemed far away. But then it all came together and now our graduates are on their path to a new beginning.

I want to extend a special word of thanks and appreciation to Ms. Heike Mayer and Mrs. Padmini Nadar-Japal for arranging the whole event ensuring that every little detail was organised perfectly. From tables that were allocated to different towns in Namibia to a global feel with the maps put up as placemats, globes and airplanes that were the raffle ticket numbers - all in the spirit of *"Think local - act global"*. Decorations were handmade by Ms. Mayer with a lot of care to give our graduates the farewell into the big wide world that they have so long longed for.

The Board of Directors was represented by Mr. Raniero Leto and Mr. Yaw Brantuo, who both sent the graduates on their way with some thought provoking words.

Mr. Leto illustrated the journey our graduates will be embarking on through a poem Rudyard Kipling wrote for his son in 1895. If you can face the difficulties of life and still keep your head up, you will master life and *"yours is the world and everything that's in it."* Our life is not a sprint, it is a marathon. Be patient. Success comes easy, but dealing with failure takes character. Trying again and again makes us better - *"When life has knocked you down, often repeatedly, when you feel alone in a dark hole; when you think you are not good enough; that you will never make it....Don't believe it: "hold on" and trust in yourself; failure is often the springboard to success."* [Click here](#) to view Mr. Leto's speech

Mr. Brantuo spoke about respect, about the respect we should have for everyone: *"Everyone is important: Learn to show them some respect"*. The diversity our students are exposed to gives them a unique opportunity to learn some of the most important virtues of life. Respect yourself and be the best person you can possibly be. Respect others and treat them well. *"In learning to discipline yourself to be respectful, you learn to be strong and manage your emotions and your life."*

*"People will forget what you said,
People will forget what you did,
But people will never forget how you made them feel."* Maya Angelou

[Click here](#) to view Mr. Brantuo's speech

**Regards,
Maggie Reiff**

