

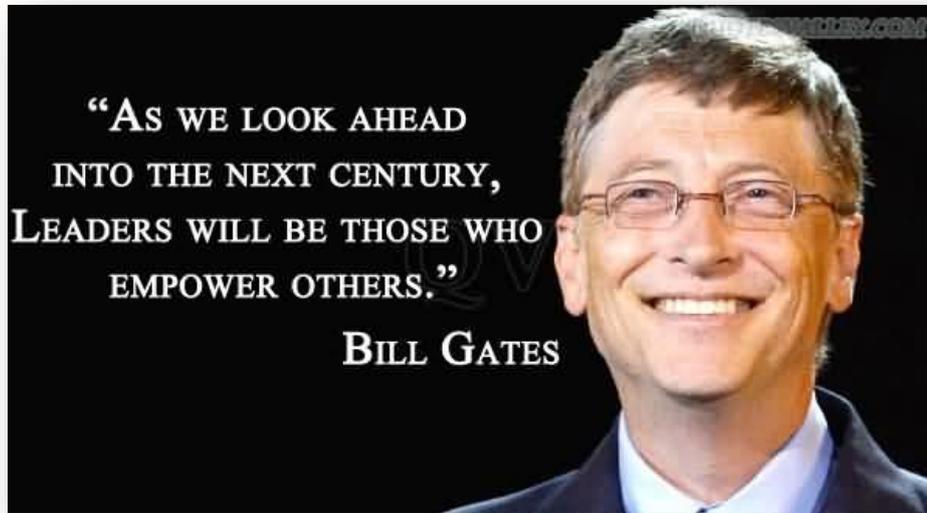


Dream it. Embrace it. Live it.

GAME/CHANGERS

23 January 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians



The role of an educator is ultimately to empower our learners to be the best they can be. But we are all leaders in some way and often we are not aware of it. Watch this [TED Talk](#) to see once more how **ordinary** people (see last week's newsletter) lead, oftentimes without realising it, and how often we are the spark that lights the fire of empowerment in someone else.



You will see this logo from time to time on our photographs and activities:

Part of empowering others is sometimes giving them the step-up they need to participate fully in school life or the community.

And sometimes empowering others is as simple as those 'lollipop moments' we give to one another.

Servant Leadership is about this awareness of the 'other.'





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Intersen Athletics

Despite the debilitating heat and wind last week the Intersen ran; jumped and threw faster higher and further. Well done to the Blue House for coming out the winners and well done to White House for still being enthusiastic afterwards. Below are some of the action shots:



White House
Blue House



We don't so much run as **fly** here at Meridian Pinehurst

Dedicated parents braving the sun to support





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For those of you who didn't see this article in *Die Burger* on our school, here is the transcript:

Skoolhoof: Colleen Bentley

Klasgrootte: 35

Skoolgeld: R20 580 per jaar

Taal: Engels

Opedag: 11 Februarie 2017

Kontak: info.pinehurst@curro.co.za

Een van die laerskoolleerlinge van die skool sien die skoolhoof in die gange en skree: "Mrs Bentley!" hardloop na haar en slaan haar arms om die skoolhoof, Colleen Bentley. By Meridian Pinehurst in Durbanville is dit duidelik almal ken mekaar.

Hier is almal familie

Siphosihle Jafta (11), voorsitter van die matriekraad in 2017, meen ook die skool het 'n wonderlike familiegevoel. "Almal is vriende, ken mekaar en ken selfs mekaar se verjaarsdae. Die onderwysers en leerders het ook meer van 'n ouer-en-kind verhouding met mekaar."

Nande Nyakaza (17), ondervoorsitter van die 2017-matriekraad, beaam dit en voeg by: "Die onderwysers is soos moeder- en vaderfigure vir ons en hulle help ons met enige probleme, of dit met skool of jou persoonlike lewe te doen het."

Net die beste onnies

Volgens Bentley is daar ook 'n groot fokus op personeelopleiding en ontwikkeling by die skool. Onderwysers moet ná skool beskikbaar wees vir ekstra klasse en om hulp te bied vir leerlinge wat dit benodig. Die skool bied ook naskoolse sorg, waar die leerlinge middagete kry en hulle huiswerk kan doen. "Ons fokus baie op die akademie en het dus 'n sterk akademiese dnersteuningsnetwerk," sê Bentley.

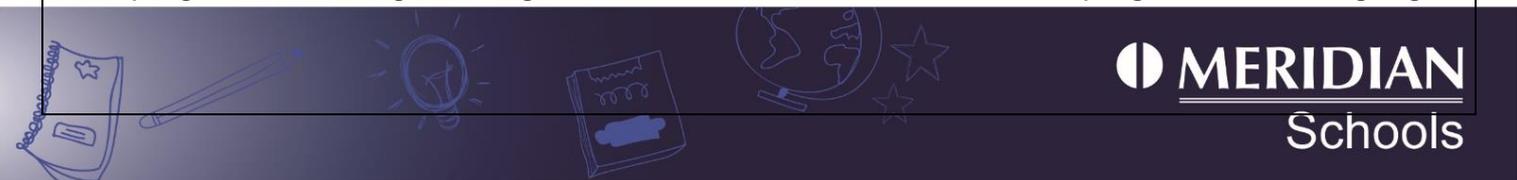
Keraleigh Hodson (16), wat as jong mariene bioloog oor naweke by die Twee Oseane-akwarium in Kaapstad help, sê dit is danksy haar onderwysers en die skool se aanmoediging dat sy by die akwarium betrokke geraak het. "Hulle het my gehelp om iets te bereik en vir my die deure oopgemaak." Volgens Keraleigh bou die onderwysers jou karakter en fokus nie net op jou akademie nie, maar eerder op jou sterkpunte.

Siphosihle voeg by: "Dit is nie die gebou en mure wat 'n plek spesiaal maak nie, maar die mense wat aan die binnekant van die mure is. En dit is die geval by ons skool. Die atmosfeer is warm en spesiaal."

Hier is plek vir almal

Volgens Siphosihle sal leerlinge wat nie bang is om hulself te wees nie, maklik by die skool inpas. Nande het eers hierdie jaar by die skool aangesluit, maar vining sy voete gevind. "Ek is my eie mens en hulle het my so aanvaar. Die skool laat jou toe om jouself te wees en bevorder jou nes jy is."

Selfs gr. 8-leerlinge voel bitter vinnig welkom in dié skool. Volgens Bentley is daar elke jaar 'n 7/11-program waar die gr. 7- en gr. 11-leerders deel vorm van 'n mentorprogram om die oorgang



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na gr. 8 en matriek makliker te maak.

Elkeen kry 'n plek

Siphosihle verduidelik dat die skool in verskillende besprekingsgroepe verdeel is en elkeen van dié groepe het 'n leier. "Byna almal in die skool behoort aan so 'n groep. Ons kom saam in die week en bespreek verskillende goed, soos aktuele sake en goed wat ons pla en so kry ons kans om die kwessies met ander leerders te bespreek," sê sy.

'n Jong skool

Die skool is nog jonk en dit maak dit maklik vir die leerders en onderwysers om nou hul eie tradisies en kultuur te bepaal, meen Bentley. "Ons het 'n kombinasie van verskillende jongmense en enigiemand is welkom hier. Ons vier en help die individu om te groei. Kinders is nie net die toekoms van ons land nie. Ons moedig die kinders aan om te besef dat hulle die wêreld nou dadelik kan verander."

Staff Team-Building

If you notice a few of us limping around the campus this week, show some compassion for us – our staff team-building involved



much fun and games and

significantly more exercise than a few of us are used to. Thanks to Mrs Strauss-Layman and Mrs Marais who organised it all.





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Respect the Cones

Parking at Pinehurst:

Please DO NOT park on the grass or drive over cones. The cones are there to protect spaces where your children are walking. Not only do you anger your fellow parents by this behaviour, but you endanger our children. Likewise do not park in front of the Nursery unless you have a Nursery child to walk in. Again this request is for the safety of our little ones. Naturally if you have children in both schools, you may park there. But older children can walk further, so please park past the tennis courts if you need to park and walk your child in. Even the staff are walking (with all their bags) at the moment from far away. As a school we are quite fortunate to have a through-flow for traffic and many fixed bays, but we do have to be mindful of one another. It's cool to be kind!



Facebook Marketplace and Uniform

Please note that the Facebook marketplace is for the buying and selling of school uniform and textbooks **only**. It is not the space for private business advertising. Regrettably, such advertisements will be deleted. If you would like to advertise your business, in this newsletter, or on a signboard, please contact Mrs Linda Heyliger linda.b@curro.co.za for details of how to do this.

Please utilise the marketplace to purchase/ sell second-hand uniform especially if you need sizes which are out of stock. Let's help each other here.

Parents Advisory Council (PAC)

As I encouraged parents at the parent evening, please consider giving your name to your child's register teacher in order to act as the liaison between parents and the school and/or contact Brigitta Nel brigitta.nel@vodamail.co.za who is the PAC secretary. This organisation is your voice and offers opportunities for parental empowerment. The group are planning several activities this year to encourage community among our parents.

Campus Fun Walk

Join us on Friday evening for a fun walk around the campus and enjoy the splendour of our mountain views. There is no cost to participate – entry is a donation of old clothes in good condition which will be distributed to needy children in foster care.





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Save on your school fees!

Who says the January sales are only for retail stores?! We still have a few places in certain grades and are offering a special deal to our current parents to save on your school fees by successfully referring another child to the school this year. This special lasts until 28 February, so start calling your friends immediately. Refer to the flyer (which will be sent home with your children today) for details or call reception.

Sports Programme Foundation Phase Term 1 2017

Below is the UPDATED Sports Programme for Term 1.

Athletics:

- U/7's training is on Mondays and Wednesdays from 13:45 – 14:30.
- U/8's training is on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 13:45 – 14:30.
- U/9's training is on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 14:30 – 15:15.
- Note that Athletic training is a summer sport and not only for Interhouse training.

Interhouse Gr R and Gr 1 will take place on Wednesday, 8 February 2017.

Interhouse Gr 2 and Gr 3 will take place on Thursday, 9 February 2017.



Tennis:

- (Grade 1) U/7's training is on Mondays from 13:45 – 14:30.
- (Grade 2) U/8's training is on Wednesdays from 13:45 – 14:30.
- (Grade 3) U/9's training is on Mondays & Wednesdays from 14:30 – 15:15.

Mini-Cricket:

- (Grade 1) U/7's training is on Mondays and Wednesdays from 13:45 – 14:30.
- (Grade 2) U/8's training is on Mondays and Wednesdays from 13:45 – 14:30.
- (Grade 3) U/9 training will be on Mondays & Wednesdays from 14:30 – 15:15.
- U/10 training will be on Mondays & Wednesdays from 14:45 – 15:30

Chess

- (Grade 1) U/7's & (Grade 2) U/8's practise is on Tuesdays from 13:45 – 14:45.
- (Grade 3) U/9's practise is on Mondays from 14:45 – 15:45.
- NOTE: There is a fee per term to be paid to Mr Willenberg. Further Information will be given.

Dance

- Dance Mouse: Gr R will be on Tuesdays from 13:30 – 14:15.
- Dance Mouse: (Grade 1) U/7's and (Grade 2) U/8's practise is on Tuesdays from 13:45 – 14:30.
- Dance Madness: (Grade 3) U/9's practise is on Tuesdays from 14:30 – 16:15.
- Ballet: Gr – 3 practise is on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 13:30 -16:30.

Art

- Grade 2: Mondays from 13:45 – 14:45
- Grade 3: Thursday from 14:30 – 15:30
- Learners will meet in Grade 1 E1's classroom and will then be taken to the art room in the InterSen Phase





Sports Programme Intermediate Phase Term 1 2017

Below is the UPDATED Sports Programme for Term 1.

Athletics:

- Training for U/14 – U/19's is from 14:55 – 15:55.
- Inter Schools Athletic Meeting will take place on 30 January 2017 at Greenpoint Stadium.

Tennis:

- U/14's – U/16's training will be on Thursdays from 14:55 – 15:55.

Cricket:

- U/14 – U/19 training will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 14:55 – 15:55.

Chess

- Practises will be on Mondays from 14:45 – 15:45 for grades 8 – 12.

Please make sure that your child is dressed in full casual sports clothes. Meridian Sport Wear is COMPULSORY when doing PE, doing athletic events and at matches.

For all the sports enquiries, please contact the Sports Co-ordinator.

Mr T Skosana

Email: themba.s2@curro.co.za

Dates to Diarise

Monday, 23 January: Grade 8 Camp (Go on a date)

Tuesday, 24 January: Grade 8 Camp

Wednesday, 25 January: -

Thursday, 26 January: **Ms Jessica Barnard's** birthday
IT Staff at Curro Training Camp

Friday, 27 January: Maths Staff Training
IT Staff at Curro Training Camp
Meridian Fun Walk

Saturday, 28 January: Maths Staff Training
Staff First Aid Training
Mr Themba Skosana's
birthday

Monday, 30 January: PS Staff Training
Inter-Curro High School
Athletics





Let us not forget that Jesus is the true servant leader who empowers us all. I wish you all a week filled with opportunities both to be strengthened and empowered by Him and also moments when you can lift up others.



Yours in education

Colleen Bentley
Executive Head

We thank Clean A Blind for sponsoring this newsletter:



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