



Campus News

16 March 2016

Dear Curro Parents / Guardians

YOUR NEWSLETTER #4 INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING

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1. FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE HEAD

Our learners have been working hard these last few weeks and I know that we are all looking forward to a well-deserved break!

On 26 and 27 February, Mila Nyati represented Curro Thatchfield at the **Gauteng Athletic Championships** at the Ruimsig Athletics Stadium in Roodepoort and was placed 5th overall in the boys' under 12 100m Sprints. Well done, Mila!

Unfortunately, due to bad weather we had to postpone our **Curro 7s Regional Tournament**. The new dates will be finalised soon and communicated to our parents.

We are pleased to announce that at our **PAC election** held on Saturday, 5 March 2016 the following parents were voted / co-opted onto the PAC:

GROUP 5	Tshepiso Moloi (c)
	Arisha Ramjee-Heera (c)
GRADE R	Nthabiseng Mabena
	Vhomami Singo
GRADE 1	Tumi Maphumulo
	Ashnie Naidoo
GRADE 2	Nisha Naidoo
	Raakhesh Budhia
GRADE 3	Yvonne Da Costa
	Zanele Nhlapo
GRADE 4	Pretty Ngwasheng (c)
	Thuli Manzini (c)
GRADE 5	Josephine Dambudzo (c)
	Mzolisi Rungqu (c)

GRADE 6	Florence Mokgobu (c)
	Tebogo Madumo (c)
GRADE 7	Nokuthula Collis
	Liesl Carolissen (c)
GRADE 8	Hlanganani Mtshali (c)
GRADE 9	Meena Mayaram
GRADE 10	
GRADE 11	Pila Rulashe (c)

In their absence we also say a fond farewell and a special thanks to Mr Warren Solomons (outgoing PRC Chair) who completed his term with the PRC at the end of 2015.

At the PAC meeting, the following **office bearers** were voted in for the year:

Chairperson: Mziliso Runqu
Vice Chairperson: Raakhesh Buddhia
Treasurer: Tebogo Madumo
Secretary: Nisha Naidoo

Congratulations to these parents and also a huge thank you to all PAC members for their hard work, dedication and input to the school; it is greatly appreciated. You will soon receive a communique from the PAC which outlines their **plans for 2016**.

Thank you to those parents who supported our **Easter Egg Outreach Project** and took up our challenge. We managed to collect approximately **22 000** Easter eggs which will be distributed to hospitals, orphanages, neighbouring schools, police stations and other community service providers to spread the Easter spirit.

The **school closes** on **Friday 18 March at 11:00**. I would like to make an urgent appeal to our parents to please be on time to collect your children. Reports for both the Primary and High Schools will be issued on the last day of term.

I do appreciate parents' interaction with the school and wish to share the following email with you which I received during the last few weeks:

Morning Traffic

Parents, if you recognise this Toyota Avanza transporting children to school as the one you use, then please note. This morning, Tuesday 1 March 2016 at 07H22, this transporter came past me on the R55 driving recklessly on the centre island at great speed. The children inside were clutching tightly to the seats and each other as the vehicle bounced along the dirt. I caught up to the vehicle at the robots on the bridge down from Curro School and hooted at the driver who eventually turned to look at me. I told him to slow down as he had children in the vehicle. He said he was late for school. Please think carefully before putting your children's safety in the hands of someone whose first priority is business.



Regards
XXXXXX

I once again urge our parents to please make sure that the drivers who are transporting your children do comply with all Road Safety Regulations, i.e. vehicle roadworthy, licenced, Public Driver's Permit, not overloading, etc. See *tips on transport providers under PAC section*.

I am super-excited to announce that **Dr Molapo** will do a follow-up visit at our school. He will be addressing our parents on **Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 April at 18h30**. I would like to invite parents to let us know of discussion topics for these evenings.

Mrs Marlene Gerber

2. FROM THE DESK OF THE HEAD OF CURRO CASTLE

I would like to thank all the Castle parents for a wonderful first term. Early in Term 2 our parents will receive communication regarding the election of our own PAC for the Castle. The needs of Castle parents differ vastly from those of Primary/High School parents and together we can identify projects that will help to improve our lovely Castle.

Thank you for all the Easter eggs that we received which will be donated to the less fortunate.

The Holiday programme will take place from 22 March to 4 April. Please remember to inform your child's class teacher if your child will be attending.

For those of you who will be going on holiday, please drive safely and enjoy your Easter.

Mrs Sonnette Pretorius

3. FROM THE DESK OF THE RECEPTION PHASE HEAD

I cannot believe we have reached the end of Term 1 of 2016!

Our **deepest condolences** go to Ethan Nong and his family (Toy Story Class), who lost his mommy after a long illness. We pray that you will find comfort in Our Heavenly Father and remember that He will not forsake His children.

Thank you for all the positive feedback and the **good relationship** we have with our Parents. Our Panarotti's evenings went well and we would like to thank all our parents for taking part in this social event.

Please remember that our **FUN DAY** will take place on Saturday, 16 April at 08:30 on the Primary School Sports field.

R20 PARTICIPATION FEE

Mothers, brothers and sisters will do a fun-run around the track, our learners will do an obstacle course and our Daddies will take part in a 100m relay-race. Get your teams together, Daddies!

FOOD STALLS -- JUMPING CASTLES -- GAMES

Your child will be getting his/her **report** on Friday 18 March when the school closes at 11:00 for the holiday.

Enjoy your holiday and please return safely.

Mrs Suzette Kotze

4. FROM THE DESK OF THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our **Grade 3 and Grade 7 learners** are getting more and more excited about their respective camps at Thaba Morula and Pennington Beach Resort during April.

Our parent-teacher conference for the Primary School will take place on Tuesday 6 April (Grade 1 – 3) and Wednesday 7 April (Grade 4 – 7) from 14h30 to 18h30. Teachers will be available to attend to parents and discuss their child's progress during the first term.

One of our service providers, Tennis Lab SA, is offering an excellent **holiday programme** for Primary School learners, should you be faced with your children being bored during the school holidays – see Dates to Diarise for details.

In Term 2 we are looking at the possibility of bringing in **Judo** as an additional **extra mural**. (See attached information brochure)

If you are fortunate enough to take time off with your children during the holidays, enjoy it and if you are going away, please drive safely and come back re-energised.

5. FROM THE DESK OF THE OPERATIONAL HEAD : HIGH SCHOOL

We have just completed the first round of workshops involving **Elevate Education**. By all accounts the workshops on learning techniques were a resounding success. Learners were asked to give some feedback regarding the workshops and I would like to share one or two with you:

"I learned useful skills needed to study which would really help me in the future. It was entertaining and very useful." – Priyanka.

"It was one of the best. It helped me memorise and create notes faster and remember them." – Ziyanda.

99% of respondents in the survey agreed that it was worth their while and that they would recommend the workshop to other learners. These study skills workshops were the start to our initiative of bringing the 21st century learning skills into our classrooms.

From Term 2 you will notice various initiatives being rolled out in our day-to-day teaching. Our classes will be more **learner-centred**, we will be expecting the learners to do more online research as we would like them to construct their own knowledge. You will also hear your children talk of more group work in the classroom as we would like them to collaborate more. In addition, there will also be much more emphasis on critical thinking and creativity.

We will also be implementing various initiatives to get the learners to **take responsibility** for their work and also have the ability to reflect on what they have done. We will expect learners to set academic as well as behavioural goals for themselves in the beginning of each term. They will then reflect on whether or not they have achieved these goals at the end of the term. We will also expect them to reflect on why goals were not met as well as what could be done to improve on the result. Learners will then also get the opportunity to reflect on each assessment and identify the mistakes they have made in order to improve on their previous result.

In all these initiatives **your support as a parent** is of the utmost importance. Hopefully with all these interventions we can get our learners to achieve their full potential.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" – and therefore we will soon introduce a new physical activity at school, i.e. **BOOTCAMP**. (See attached information brochure)

I would like to thank all our parents for their support during this term and I look forward to an even busier and more exiting second term!

Mr Danie van Schalkwyk

6. PARENT-to-PARENT BLOG (PRC)

How to choose school transport

IOL - By: **NONTOBEKO MTSHALI, MPILETSO MOTUMI & KUTLWANO OLIFANT**

Written-off vehicles held together by wire, minibus taxis without floorboards, and brake pedals tied to the floor. These are the conditions of some vehicles used to transport hundreds of thousands of children to and from school.

Last year in Gauteng, 95 percent of operating school vehicles seen at testing centres were written off as unroadworthy. Road Traffic Management Corporation spokesman Ashref Ismail said it was shocking how many defective vehicles were used to transport children. "One operation done in November by the Gauteng traffic police in the Vaal area was a real eye-opener. Of the 227 school vehicles tested, 215 failed... absolutely shocking. "That was an all-time record of the number of unroadworthy vehicles found in one testing centre during a single sting operation."

In November and last month, 603 school transport vehicles were tested, of which 412 failed.

Now, Ismail said, the national Department of Transport had earmarked next month to focus on scholar transport.

Howard Dembovsky, the national chairman of Justice Project SA, said unroadworthy school transport was commonplace because corruption was rife at testing stations. Even though a Professional Driving Permit renewal and vehicle testing would cost just over R400, people were willing to pay up to R1 000 to have their vehicles passed, he said. Also, some didn't even take their vehicles to testing centres, yet still passed the test.

At Melpark Primary School, a driver who did not want to be named, but who has been in the business since 1992, told *The Star* there were drivers who belonged to drivers' associations and those who worked alone. Problems arose when those not with associations set lower prices to attract parents and then overloaded their vehicles to cover costs. Also, when those drivers – most have no insurance – ran out of money before month-end, they simply switched off their phones and left pupils and parents hanging.

And parents were not blameless. "With some parents, we only see them at the beginning of the year when we sign agreements. When we fetch their children they don't even leave the house to look at the vehicle or interact with the driver". "For all they know, the driver could be a drunk who drinks and smokes in front of the children... the parents simply don't care."

What your child's driver should have, according to the Department of Roads and Transport:

- 1) A Professional Driving Permit;
- 2) A letter from the school approving the transport service;
- 3) A list of pupils' names;
- 4) Detailed route to be followed to and from school;
- 5) A timetable detailing the pick-up and drop-off points.

Should there be input that parents would like to share, please forward to:

Curro.thatchfield.pac@gmail.com

Parent Advisory Council 2016

7. DATES TO DIARISE

Please take note of the following important dates:

Date	Activity	High School	Primary School
Thurs, 10 Mar	Grade 5s Funky Day		X
Sat, 12 Mar	Rugby – Trinity House (Little Falls)	X	
Thu, 17 Mar	Curro's Got Talent Gr. 3's Parent Meeting w.r.t. Thaba Morula Camp	X	X
Fri, 18 Mar	Inter-house Culture School closes @ 11:00	X X	X
22 – 24 Mar	TennisLab SA Autumn Holiday Programme @ PS Tennis Courts*	X	X
29 – 31 Mar	TennisLab SA Autumn Holiday Programme @ PS Tennis Courts*	X	X
Tues, 5 Apr	School re-opens for Term 2	X	X
Wed, 6 Apr	Gr 4 to 7 Parents Day 14:30 to 18:30 (in classes) Parent REP meeting 17:30 to 19:00		X
Thu, 7 Apr	Gr 1 to 3 Parents Day 14:30 to 18:30	X	
Sat, 9 Apr	Parents Morning	X	
Fri, 15 Apr	Excursion Day (Gr 1 and 2) Grade 3's depart for Thaba Marula		X
Mon, 18 Apr	Grade 3's arrive back from Thaba Marula		X
Fri, 22 Apr	Excursion Day (Gr 4 to 6) Grade 7's depart for Veld School		X
Tues, 26 Apr	Grade 7's arrive back from Veld School		X
Wed, 27 Apr	Freedom Day	X	X
28 – 29 Apr	Curro Holiday	X	X

**Kindly note that this is a private initiative and the School will not handle any queries or correspondence. Please communicate directly with Tennis Lab organiser, Siya Nkachela on 083-958-2839 or siya@tennislab.co.za*

8. GENERAL

School Diary

Please note that a **replacement cost of R100** will be charged for lost or damaged diaries.

Lost Property

Please note that, in future, no items will be returned or taken from **Lost and Found**, should the learner's name not be clearly marked on the item. An Art line 70 black marker may be used as this does not "run" in the wash. Another option is to stitch or iron on labels - www.labelpal.co.za has a selection for all your needs. **The Lost-and-Found room is now located in the L-block and is overseen by Mrs Margaret Nkosi.**

Loyalty Cards

Our school is linked to **MAKRO and MY SCHOOL**. These are opportunities to raise funds for our school without any effort – just swipe your loyalty card! You can visit the respective websites to register or if you already have a card kindly change the beneficiary to Curro Thatchfield.

<https://www.myschool.co.za> AND <http://www.makro.co.za>

Lockers

Lockers are available at a fee of R420 per annum or a monthly fee of R35.00. A locker rental agreement form must be completed and returned to Mrs Annali Fourie (Primary School) or Mrs Anel Ainslee-Brits (High School) who will be the administrators

Drop-off of Learners

It has been reported that parents now start dropping learners at the **slipway** entrance in Drakensberg Road. Parents stop on a clearly marked yellow line (No Parking) and their children then enter through a gate that is **NOT pedestrian friendly**. I have reported this practice to the **Metro Police** who will now assist us in enforcing traffic rules.

School Contact Number

Kindly note that the school's telephone switchboard has been upgraded and that the **outgoing number** may reflect as **087 286 8268**. This is not a call centre number and we request parents to please answer should they receive a call from this number.

Financial Matters

We really go out of our way to accommodate parents with regards to the paying of additional expenses, i.e. stationery, textbooks, utility fees, etc. We have structured the payment dates in such a way that you are not billed for everything in one month. The School Fee structure for 2016 has been communicated to all parents and is also available on the website. For your convenience, see the link below and take note when additional payments are due.

<http://www.curro.co.za/2016/1/26/2016%20School%20Fees%20Curro%20Thatchfield.pdf>

Kindly note that a strict no-return policy will apply at the end of the year. Changing schools can have a devastating effect on children, so please make the paying of School fees top priority.

You may also pay your **School Fees** account with your credit/debit card by using the **My Hub** website where you open your statement, click on the "pay now" button and follow the instructions accordingly.

Facebook Challenge

Parents, have you recently visited our Facebook pages? You will find amazing photos and interesting news there! We are currently running a "like-the-page" campaign and want to urge parents to please like our pages. We want 5 000 likes before the end of 2016!

9. IN CONCLUSION

We may overlook some of the important things in life when we are carried away by other things that keep us occupied. It is good to step back and slow down so we can recall all of the things we should be grateful for. Easter is a good time for recollection and being thankful for all the blessings that we have in our lives. Happy Easter!



Yours in Education

M. Gerber

**MRS M. GERBER
EXECUTIVE HEAD**

Per Ardua Ad Alta

-through hard work great heights are achieved-

General Information - Curro Thatchfield Independent School

Address:

3512 Barbet Street
Cnr Brakfontein & Barbet Road
Thatchfield Hills
The Reeds
0157
P O Box 401
Celtis Ridge
0130

Website:

www.curro.co.za

GPS Coordinates:

S 25° 54' 05.8". E 028° 06' 26.7"

Phone:

(012) 652-2906

E-mail Addresses:

P/S: info.thatchfieldprimary@curroholdings.co.za

H/S: info.thatchfieldhigh@curroholdings.co.za

Castle: info.thatchfieldcastle@curroholdings.co.za

PRC: curro.thatchfield.prc@gmail.com

Accounts:**Bursar**

Nicolize.j@curroholdings.co.za

Debtors

Buiswe.m01@curroholdings.co.za (A to L)

Malanie.b@curro.co.za (M to Z)

Sport – Primary School:

Musa.m01@curro.co.za

Marinda.f02@curro.co.za

Sport – High School:

Jaco.v01@curro.co.za

Marina.m01@curro.co.za

Counsellor:

Suselle Dry (Educator)

(012) 652 2906 or

suselle.d01@curroholdings.co.za

Curro Banking Details:**School Fees Account**

(Enrolment, Transport, Aftercare & Curriculum Tablet Fee)

Name of Acc: Curro Thatchfield

Bank: FNB

Acc No: 623 5878 0403

Branch Code: 250-655

Reference: Family Code

Funds Account

Name of Acc: Curro Thatchfield Funds Account

Bank: FNB

Acc Number: 623 8523 8269

Branch Code: 201-410

Ref: Family Code

Please note that school fees are due in advance on the 2nd of every month for 12 months (e.g. July school fees are payable on 2nd July)

NB: A R150 payment allocation fine will be added to all accounts that do not use the family code as reference when making an EFT payment

Outside Providers**Grit Uniform Lounge:**

Located in the High School Admin Office

Mon – Thurs: 07:30 to 09:00 and 12h30 to 16h00

Fri: 12:30 to 14:00

Afro School Books:

ldreyer@afroschool.co.za or 011 708 6334

Educational Support Team:**Educational Psychologist**

Elmarie Moss-Dormehl on 082 920 4929

Occupational Therapist

Karen Liebenberg on 083 651 0876

Speech Therapist

Liesl Turner on 072 124 7646

Lieslturner@vodamail.co.za

Play Therapist

Anita Potgieter on 084 632 1313

anita.l.potgieter@gmail.com

Urban Life Church Services on Sundays in the Primary School Hall @ 10:00

danie@urbanlife.org.za

www.urbanlife.org.za

ROOIHUISKRAAL JUDO CLUB

Does your child suffer from:

ADHD / ADD

Hyperactivity

Touch sensitivity

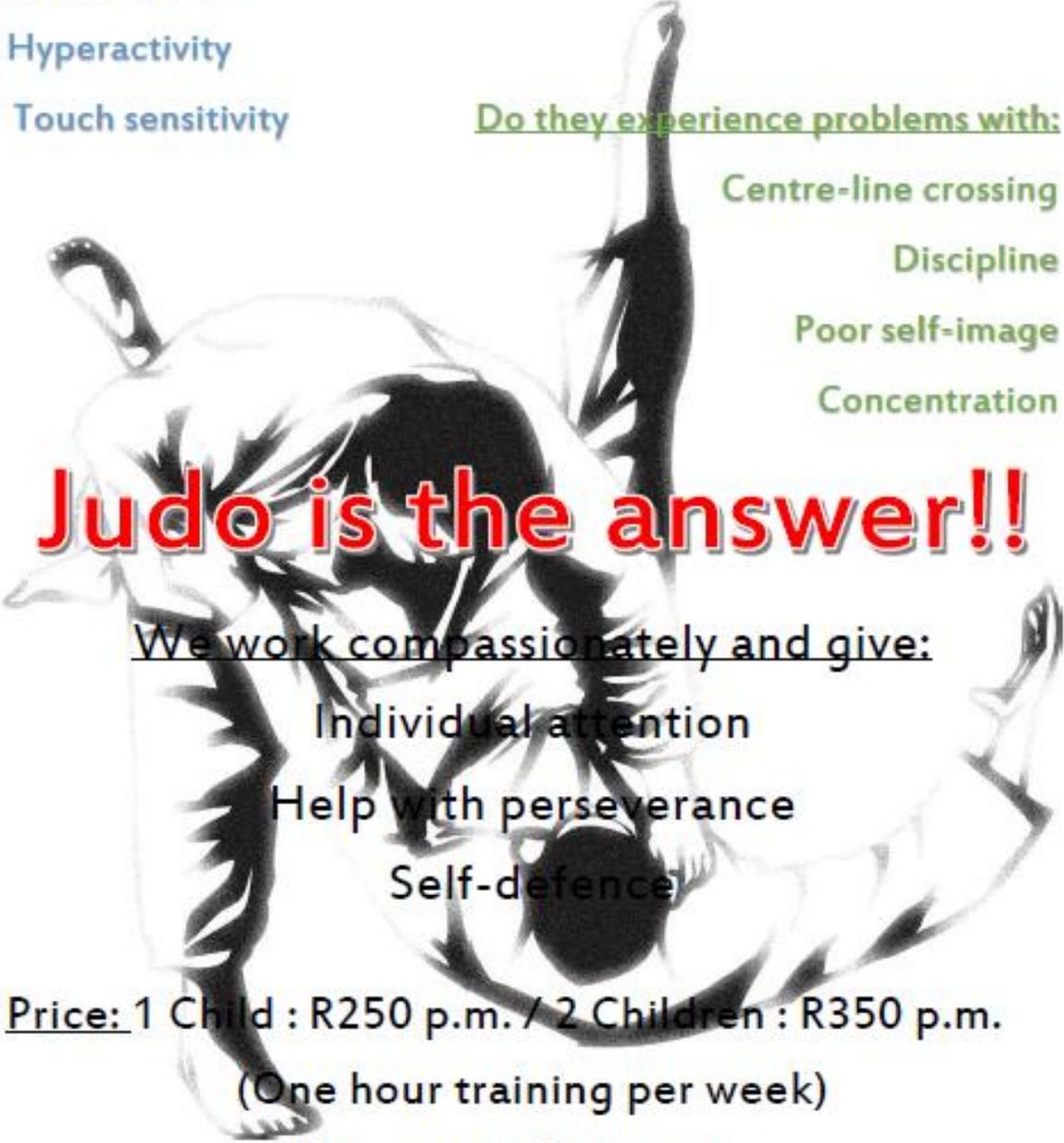
Do they experience problems with:

Centre-line crossing

Discipline

Poor self-image

Concentration



Judo is the answer!!

We work compassionately and give:

Individual attention

Help with perseverance

Self-defence

Price: 1 Child : R250 p.m. / 2 Children : R350 p.m.

(One hour training per week)

For more information :

Chandre – 082 855 5340

Sheldin – 082 729 1381



Michaela Mallett

Better with Balance School Boot camp

E: betterwithbalance@gmail.com

F: 084 860 4484

During the course of last week the students participated in a fitness class at Curro College Thatchfield. I am happy to say that this was a huge success and the students thoroughly enjoyed it. The exercises were challenging and fun and the students were given an opportunity to see fitness in a different light.

Better with balance is an organisation that promotes healthy and sustainable living through various components. We specialise in one on one personal training, boot camps, fitness classes, online training programs, dietary requirements and specialized family training. We focus on providing excellent services with the best trainers attainable.

We have recently decided to approach Curro College to give the students an opportunity to find an exercise program that they will enjoy away from the sports activities offered at the school.

How can my child benefit from this form of training?

- Reduced body fat
- Increased metabolism and energy levels
- Increased confidence and self esteem
- Increased strength and balance
- Nutritional guidance
- A more productive and happier lifestyle
- Increased social skills
- Self-growth and development
- One on one training guidance
- Improved posture and form
- Improved coordination and balance
- Improved fitness levels during sports season

What does the training involve?

- Low and high intensity cardiovascular training
- Body weight, strength and plyometric training
- Dancing and group activities
- Partnership work
- Flexibility, balance and coordination exercises

Meet your trainers

Michaela Mallett

Business owner and dedicated trainer. Michaela has had a bad history of eating disorders from a young age and is now fully recovered. Her main priority is to help girls all around the country to become more educated on health and nutrition. Michaela was on the South African Dance team for many years and believes that fitness does not need to be limited to one form of training. "Life is about balance, restrictive dieting and shortcuts are never the answer.

Everything in moderation.” Michaela is a qualified personal trainer as well as culinary art. She uses these skills to remain educated on balanced diet and exercise science.

Ntuthuko Gama

Studied sports and exercise science at TUT. Worked for Virgin Active from March 2015 as a group exercise instructor and fitness instructor. Became a personal trainer in 2015 and currently still runs the boot camp at Virgin Active. Sports and fitness coach, health scientist and sport and exercise scientist. Also studied with IFT and qualified as an exercise specialist in 2013.

When will this training take place?

The boot camp will be held twice a week at Curro College after academic hours. The classes will be split into juniors and seniors

What are the costs involved?

Better with balance runs as a separate entity to Curro College therefore the fees charged are external from the current activities offered at the school.

The cost per month will be R350.00 per student paid at the start of each month.

Should you wish to allow your child to participate in this training program please email me on **betterwithbalance@gmail.com** so I can send you the necessary forms to complete regarding the medical history and training goals of your child.

I have attached a small snippet of the activities that took place during the class. I look forward to hearing from you and I hope we can have a positive impact on all the students out there.

