



CURRO

Thatchfield

Campus News

11 April 2016

Dear Curro Parents / Guardians

YOUR NEWSLETTER #5 INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING

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1. FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE HEAD

Welcome back after a well-deserved break! The good news is that we will have another short break at the end of April where we will have a Curro long week-end from 27 April to 2 May. Thereafter it will be down to core business, i.e. Teaching and Learning.

The revised dates for the **Curro 7s Regional Tournament** are as follows:

- Wednesday, 13 April – Primary School (School closes at 12:00)
- Thursday, 14 April – High School (School closes at 12:00)

We request that you please arrange transport accordingly. Your co-operation in this regard is highly appreciated.

It is with great excitement that we advise that Curro Holdings has embarked on a **“Blue” marketing campaign** where Curro Thatchfield will host our **blueWednesday on 13 April 2016**. On this day (from 08:00 to 18:00) all **NEW enrolments for 2017** will receive a 100% discount on the enrolment and administration fee for 2017 – a whopping R5 550.00 discount! If you know of any friends, families or acquaintances that would like to enrol their children for 2017, please spread the good news. Remember, it is only one day, i.e. **13 APRIL 2016**.

As previously communicated, **Dr Molapo** will do a follow-up visit to our school where he will be addressing our parents on **Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 April at 18h30**. You may choose either one of the two days to attend.

Our **Outreach Programme** for Term 2 officially starts on **Monday, 3 May** where we will collect **scarves, beanies, blankets and packets of soup**.

Based on the success of our previous outreach projects, I am sure that this one will be just as successful as our Easter egg collection – see letter of thanks we received from one of the schools we made donations to:

Thank you to Curro Thatchfield for the wonderful donation of Easter eggs. There were so many Easter eggs donated, we were able to make a little hamper to send home with the children last week.

It was such a special treat for our children. For most, these were the only Easter eggs they would have had over Easter.

*With much gratitude,
Michelle Peters
Pre-School Principal*

Thank you to the majority of our parents who practise “**Learner safety first**” when entering our school premises. I would like to once again appeal to all parents to please drive with the utmost caution when entering the school premises. **Pedestrians take preference at all times.** You cannot drive recklessly in our school grounds! Remember as a parent, you will often serve as an inadvertent example to your child. A child will model himself after you in many areas: how you deal with frustration, settle disagreements and cope with not being able to have the things that you want, to name just a few.

Mrs Marlene Gerber

2. FROM THE DESK OF THE HEAD OF CURRO CASTLE

Welcome back to all our Castle children and parents! I trust that everyone had a lovely Easter.

The Castle staff is ready and energised for a fun-filled second term. We have kicked off with individual photos and we would like to thank our parents for dressing their children so smartly - they all looked beautiful! Thank you also to all our parents who attended the Parents Day last week.

Please take note that the school will be closed from 27 April until 2 May. The formal activities will carry on from Tuesday, 3 May 2016.

I would like to remind our parents to please diarise Monday, 9 May when it is the Castle’s turn to have dinner at Panarotti’s at Forest Hill. The school will get a percentage of all sales on the evening – details to follow.

Mrs Sonnette Pretorius

3. FROM THE DESK OF THE RECEPTION PHASE HEAD

Welcome back after a well-deserved holiday. We trust that all our families had an enjoyable and blessed Easter.

Thank you to all our parents who attended our **Parents evening** last week. I would like to reassure you that your child’s well-being stays our first priority.

The Reception Phase **Management attended a conference** during the school holidays and it once again dawned on us what a privilege it was to be teaching your child/ren. The importance of this phase was confirmed by very well-known speakers where the main message was that “**all learning takes place through play**” and I quote:

Preschool years are not only optimal for children to learn through play but also a critical developmental period. If children are not given enough natural movement and play experiences, they start their academic careers with a disadvantage.

They are more likely to be clumsy, have difficulty paying attention, trouble controlling their emotions, utilise poor problem-solving methods and demonstrate difficulties with social interactions. We as Educators are consistently seeing sensory, motor and cognitive issues pop up more and more in later childhood, partly because of inadequate opportunities to move and play at an early age. (The Washington Post)

By **listening to this very sound advice**, we as parents, have the wonderful opportunity to create “creative and meta-cognitive thinkers” to become excellent “21st century learners”.

I would like to remind our parents that our **Fun Day** will take place on **Saturday, 16 April** at 08:30 at the Primary School Sports field.

R20 participation fee (our learners) and R5 parents and siblings

Our mummies, 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

Mrs Suzette Kotze

4. FROM THE DESK OF THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome to Term 2!

The **Curro 7s Regional Tournament** has been rescheduled to **Wednesday, 13 April** where school will close at 12:00. We request that you please arrange transport accordingly and would like to thank you for your co-operation in this regard.

Our **Educational Excursions** for the **Foundation Phase** will take place on Friday, 15 April and for the **Intermediate Phase** on Friday, 22 April. Please be reminded that our learners need to be “SMART” Curro Kids when going on these excursions as they are Ambassadors of our school.

Our **Grade 3 and Grade 7 learners** are getting more and more excited about their respective camps at Thaba Morula (15 to 18 April) and Pennington Beach Resort (22 to 26 April).

Kindly be reminded that a decision has been taken by Curro Head Office that learners may not attend camps/outings if any school fees are not paid up to date.

Our second term will be mainly dedicated to **Netball and Rugby** where several matches will take place during the term. Our learners also start with **examinations** on 6 June and we ask that you support your children and ensure that they are ready for what is expected of them.

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

A very warm welcome back to all our learners and parents! I trust that you enjoyed spending some quality time with your family.

Towards the end of last term, we had quite a few of our learners take part in the annual **Harmony Mathematics Olympiad** and we would like to congratulate those learners who have progressed to the next level of the competition. This competition is highly esteemed throughout the country and challenges the participants to use their mathematical abilities and insight.

Term two is traditionally the busiest term of the year. We have our **winter sport fixtures** as well as the **mid-year examinations** during this term. If you add to this four days of public holidays, we end up with just under seven weeks of teaching time before our examinations commence! A scary thought indeed...

I would like to urge you as parents to ensure that your child plans his/her study time carefully and remind him/her to attend all the academic support lessons that will be on offer during the term.

Buckle up and enjoy the ride!

Mr Danie van Schalkwyk

6. PARENT-to-PARENT BLOG (PRC)

I AM RAISING THEM TO LEAVE ME

Last night I went to a parent teacher conference for one of my children. All in all, he is doing great and I am a proud mama. When I got home and had space to think (read: lying in bed, trying to fall asleep... it's where I do my best deepest thinking, who needs sleep anyway?) something struck me about the conversation with that sweet teacher. You see, this particular child is doing great, especially when he applies himself. However, this kiddo can also act like a kid and rush through an assignment, get distracted, or maybe just not care as much as he should. She discussed a few tactics of how she was going to keep him on track. Hallelujah! (Do you think it would be too much to ask her to convince him that he must practise these skills at home while say... cleaning his room? I mean, practice makes perfect, right?). I praised her for her efforts, I praised her for her endurance, and I praised her for sticking to her guns. She looked a bit bewildered for a moment... it was like she was waiting for the next foot to drop. Like maybe, I was going to follow up the praise with excuses or justifications. There was a moment of awkward silence (This is becoming more and more common in my life.) Then she thanked me. The rest of the conference was great but while I was trying to sleep last night, I just kept replaying that one particular piece of the conversation. She. Thanked. Me.

Then it hit me... teachers are not given the freedom to teach these days, their hands are often tied, and parents are constantly breathing down their necks. We need to get out of the way and let teachers teach. Now don't get me wrong of course, as parents it is our job to protect our kids from harm and injustice. I am, by no means, suggesting that you stop doing that. (Be warned... I will show you a whole new level of crazy crazy if you are harming my child.) But what about all the uncomfortable stuff for your kid? What about having to redo an assignment? What about having to miss a recess, sit in a time out? What about when the teacher doesn't have mercy on them for their late assignment and they get a zero? What are we teaching our kids if we swoop in to save the day every time things don't go their way? I'll tell you what you are teaching them... You are teaching them they can't do this thing called life on their own. You are teaching them mom and dad have more power than all other authority figures. You are teaching them if you whine a little you will get your way. Those are all lies. Being their heroic protector now is only putting a band-aid on the issue which will continue to fester and become a gaping wound in their adult life.

When our kids venture out into the big bad world... we will not be able to email a college professor to "discuss" the latest issues, we will not be able to storm a college campus to reprimand an unfair grade, we will not be able to scorn their boss to help them get their way, and let's hope we don't think we will be able to get all up in their marriage. We have to teach our kids how to handle life. We have to let them fail and then teach them how to recover. Sometimes this is hard to watch, painful even... but it is truly forming the character of that future adult.

I want to raise our kids to be prepared to work hard and own up to their own mistakes. I want them to be equipped to persevere the trials and tribulations that life will undoubtedly throw at them. I truly believe it is better for them to progressively learn these lessons while they are under our roof. Little people, little problems... bigger people, bigger problems. It is our job to walk beside or behind them in these struggles. It is not our job to go before them. We have to raise them to NOT need us. We have to raise them to leave us.

Article by blogger Christen Spratt (www.christenspratt.com)

On another note, please may we ask you in advance to save the date for the PRC Ladies' Tea on **Saturday 13 August 2016**. This event will be the only Fundraiser which will be organised by the PRC this year. We kindly request that our parents become actively involved and offer their skills / knowledge where applicable. The contact person for the Ladies' Tea is Ms Liesl Carolissen (womenofworth10@gmail.com / Carolissen.l@dbe.gov.za). Further information will be communicated in due course.

Parents, please communicate with your PAC – we would love to hear from you on 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
Sat, 9 Apr	Parents Morning	X	
Wed, 13 Apr	blueWednesday – get 100% off registration fees Curro 7s (PS closes @ 12:00)	X	X X
Thurs, 14 Apr	Curro 7s (HS closes @ 12:00)	X	
Fri, 15 Apr	Excursion Day (Gr 1 and 2) Grade 3s depart for Thaba Marula		X
Mon, 18 Apr	Grade 3s arrive back from Thaba Marula		X
20-21 Apr	Dr Molopo presentation @18h30 High School Hall	X	X
Fri, 22 Apr	Excursion Day (Gr 4 to 6) Grade 7s depart for Veld School		X
Tues, 26 Apr	Grade 7s arrive back from Veld School		X
Wed, 27 Apr	FREEDOM DAY	X	X
28 – 29 Apr	Curro Holiday	X	X
Mon, 2 May	WORKERS DAY OBSERVED	X	X
Fri, 6 May	Grade 3 Funky Day School closes at 13:00 for staff meeting (Curro t-shirt and jeans)	X	X
Sun, 8 May	Mother's Day		
Mon, 9 May	Centurion Eisteddfod Starts	X	
Sat, 28 May	Language Festival	X	
Sat, 4 Jun	Open Day	X	X
Thurs 16 Jun	YOUTH DAY	X	X
Fri, 17 Jun	School Holiday	X	X
Fri, 24 Jun	End of Term 2 - School closes at 11:00	X	X
24-25 June	Curro Nationals at Grantleigh / Curro Langebaan	X	X
Tues, 19 Jul	School opens for Term 3	X	X
Mon, 8 Aug	School Holiday	X	X
Tues, 9 Aug	WOMEN'S DAY	X	X

8. GENERAL

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>

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 like to build connections between the child's day at school and life at home. We invite you to share your ideas, questions and concerns with us. Our goal is to build a sense of community and trust between children, parents and staff.

God sends children to enlarge our hearts, and make us unselfish and full of kindly sympathies and affections. (Mary Howitt)

Yours in Education



MRS M. GERBER
EXECUTIVE HEAD



-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

Busiswe.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