



# CURRO

## Thatchfield

# Campus News

12 May 2016

Dear Curro Parents / Guardians

## YOUR NEWSLETTER #6 INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING

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### 1. FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE HEAD

I trust that all our Mothers enjoyed a very special Mother's Day and were spoiled by their loved ones.

I would like to remind our parents that with the many public holidays, no additional "time off" can be allowed. In a month's time our learners start a pressurised **June Examination** where I am sure they would like to achieve good results. Please note that we aim to work each and every day, until the last day of the term (Examination timetables are available on the website [www.curro.co.za](http://www.curro.co.za)).

As communicated previously, we now have an additional bus doing the **Midrand route** and it gives us great pleasure to inform you that we have appointed a highly competent and skilled bus driver, i.e. Mr Petrus Mohlala.

Route	Monthly Fees
Return	R1 080.00
One way	R 570.00

You are requested to urgently contact Mrs Ilse Meiring on [ilse.m01@curro.co.za](mailto:ilse.m01@curro.co.za), should you wish to make use of this service.

All our learners must please wear full **winter uniform** as of **Monday, 16 May 2015**. Please make sure that your child wears the correct winter uniform and does not "mix-and-match" summer/winter clothing items. It is also now when learners start wearing beanies. Kindly note that the only beanie to be worn is the Curro Thatchfield beanie. Girls are only allowed to wear **opaque tights**. Parents, please assist us in making sure that our learners look SMART and portray these values.

Our **blueWednesday on 13 April 2016** was a resounding success and we would like to thank each one of our parents who was responsible for giving us referrals.

On 13 and 14 April, Curro Thatchfield hosted the **Curro Sevens** at the Primary and High Schools respectively for the first time. We are happy to announce that this turned out to be one of those events which raises the bar for everyone else and proves that Curro Thatchfield is slowly but surely positioning itself in a league of its own. After months of planning, we finally had the privilege of competing against other Curro schools. Last year we had four representatives in the Regional side and this year we are privileged to be able to have sixteen of our learners qualify to represent our region at Nationals – it seems the giant is awakening! A special thanks to our participants as well as our parents who supported us on these days.

Thank you to those of our parents who attended **Dr Molapo's GameChanger** presentation. I am sure you found his talk as informative, if not more informative than, his previous one.

On another note, we would like to advise our parents that **what applies to one school does not always necessarily apply to the other school** e.g. if the Primary School closes early it doesn't mean that the High School also closes early on that particular day.

**Barefoot Day** will be held on Friday 3 June this year. The rationale behind this day is to make learners aware of what less fortunate learners have to endure daily. Every learner comes to school barefoot and donates a pair of shoes which will be distributed amongst the needy. Participation is voluntary and no learner will be forced to take part.

I would also like to remind you of our **Outreach Programme** for Term 2 where we will collect **scarves, beanies, blankets and packets of soup**. Your support will again be greatly appreciated.

Have you had an experience with a **teacher** at school who really went the **extra mile** or did something extraordinary? Please do not hesitate to send us an email and share this experience with us. Complimenting a teacher is always highly appreciated, and I would like to personally commend teachers for helping us in making Curro Thatchfield *The School of Choice*.

*Mrs Marlene Gerber*

## 2. FROM THE DESK OF THE HEAD OF CURRO CASTLE

A fun-filled May is awaiting us. We started off celebrating **Ascension Day** on Thursday 5 May. Our children looked beautiful in their white and red and the message of John 3:16 will stay with us forever.

Thank you to all our parents who supported us on Monday 9 May when we had dinner at **Panarotti's** at Forest Hill. The school will receive a percentage of all sales during this evening.

We are in the planning process to have our very own Castle PAC elected. Parents will soon receive more information in this regard.

On Friday 27 May our youngsters will be spoilt with a visit from the **Mobile Farm**.

Until next time...

*Mrs Sonette Pretorius*

### 3. FROM THE DESK OF THE RECEPTION PHASE HEAD

I trust that you all enjoyed the well-deserved l-o-n-g-w-e-e-k-e-n-d... which is, by now, long forgotten!

Thank you to all our learners, parents and staff members for attending a very entertaining and successful **Fun Day** with us on Saturday 16 April. The day was enjoyed by all where our mummies started off with a fun walk while our learners were having fun doing obstacle courses, playing games, etc. It was heart-warming to see our parents build friendships with other parents from our school and the day drew to a close with our daddies running a relay race. But the fun didn't stop there... With all the excitement, our mummies then challenged our teachers to a relay race and I am grateful to report that **we survived!**

On Thursday 5 May we commemorated **Ascension Day**. We are truly blessed, as we don't always realise what a huge privilege it is to be able to freely express and live out our Christianity.

We are happy to advise that all individual **photos**, class photos, t/shirts and water bottles have been sent home. Please contact your child's class teacher should you have any queries.

I would like to leave you with this interesting article below:

#### **WHY SPEND TIME ON MANNERS?**

*Although character education is a topic in education, manners receives scant attention. With growing demands on teaching time, etiquette is rarely a priority.*

*But it might be a mistake to ignore the adage that actions speak louder than words. In "Teaching Children Manners", psychologist John Rosemond declares that manners and respect are inseparable.*

*He believes children can never learn to respect themselves unless they learn respect for others – beginning with adults.*

*His suggestions that can help teach manners are as follows:*

- *Work on one skill at a time.*
- *Give immediate positive feedback for manners success.*
- *Be tolerant of children's mistakes, but do not overlook them.*
- *Give a noncritical prompt when children forget social rituals.*
- *Set a good example – manners are not a one-way street.*

May God bless you and your families.

*Mrs Suetje Kotze*

### 4. FROM THE DESK OF THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our **Educational Excursions** took place on 15 and 22 April 2016 respectively, and it was evident that learners and teachers alike all enjoyed this "out-of-the-classroom" learning experience. Thank you to all our parents who supported us in this regard.

It was also wonderful to get such positive feedback from our **Grade 3 and Grade 7 learners** who all seemed to have thoroughly enjoyed their camping and Veld School experiences away from school.

As already communicated, on Friday 27 May our much anticipated **Games and Entrepreneurs afternoon** will take place. Just a reminder that this year we will have two separate days for the Foundation and Intermediate Phase. The Foundation Phase will have their day on Thursday 23 June. These events are always thoroughly enjoyed by our learners (and parents) and we trust that it will once again be a huge success.

We would like to congratulate the following five **Netball girls** who were selected to compete in the Curro Nationals in Langebaan from 23 to 25 of June i.e. Gomolemo Phohole (U13), Amahle Gigaba (U11), Paballo Didintle Kanyane (U11) and Namathemba Mashele (U11). Not only did our girls do a great job, but our very own Mrs Anri Skinner was selected as a coach for the National Team. Good luck girls – go make Curro Thatchfield proud!

We are proud to announce that on the **Rugby front**, Tendo Netshidzati, Brandon Nyandoro and Tshilidzi Netshiombo were selected to go through to the next round of **Blue Bulls** trials. Congratulations must also go to Mr Conrad Steyn who was selected as the Regional U/13 rugby coach and whose team will be participating at Langebaan in June. Adam Langson (U11), Phethani Mbedzi (U11), Nkosinamandla Nhlakanipho (U11), Dalamusa Masuku (U11), Brandon Nyandoro (U13), Tshilidzi Netshiombo (U13) and Lebajoa Mothepu (U13) were all selected to compete at the Nationals. Best of luck to all those chosen to represent the respective teams. We know that you will make us proud!

Well done also to our **Hockey** (U13) girls, i.e. Mougi Theledi, Londeka Mzimela, Sinovuyo Waqu and Palesa Mallane who will all be joining the other sporting codes for the Nationals in Langebaan.

It is **Art Festival** time again and we are going to show the other schools who has talent in Centurion! Final entries are made next week. Congratulations, if your child has been chosen to participate. Please support your child with this big event, and in doing so, build another memory with us. Kindly be on the look-out for communication regarding this over the next few days. The Drama Club and all language and music teachers are very hard at work practising to establish Curro Thatchfield's name on the cultural scene.

It has come to my attention that learners are “accidentally” deleting the **MOBI** folder from their Tablet. This folder is directly linked to miEbooks and saves all the resources and books. When that folder is deleted, learners have to download all miEbooks related content again (including books and resources). I request parents to please check that the MOBI folder is in fact on your child's Tablet.

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

Since we have last spoken, we have managed to finally host the **Curro 7s Regional Tournament** – on a wonderful sunny day without any rain! To top that, our learners excelled on the sports field.

Our learners made us exceptionally proud and a number of them were chosen to represent our Region at the National Tournament from 23 – 25 June in Durban in various Sport Codes, i.e.

Congratulations to Ms Marina Meyer who was chosen and Regional Team Manager for the Primary Schools and Mr Jacco van Aswegen who will manage the High Schools in the same capacity.

Two **cultural competitions** will be held in Term 3, i.e. the Curro Cuesta and the Centurion Arts Festival. Learners will be able to take part in dance, poetry, solo singing, group singing as well as visual arts. To date we have had close to a hundred entries. Auditions will be held during the coming weeks and I cannot wait to see how well our learners do!

As we have had to move our **June examinations** a week earlier, our Language Festival at the end of May will now be held in the first week of Term 4.

We have **four weeks left before our June examinations** start. Please ensure that you encourage your child to prepare for this examination. Our learners have received their examination timetables as well as their subject content breakdown and should be busy setting up study timetables and slowly but surely start revising work already done.

I would also like to remind you that this time of year is really stressful for your child and there is nothing like love and support to get them to achieve to the best of their ability.

*Mr Danie van Schaik*

## 6. PARENT-to-PARENT BLOG (PAC)

As your new PAC we have many new innovative ideas to get our parents involved in school activities. We would like to create a culture where we start talking about our School, our Teachers, our Children. In doing so, we are affirming that we are jointly responsible to make Curro Thatchfield the School of choice.

In the light of the above, we have sent out a survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WJYVF6Y>) If you have not completed it, please follow the link to complete.

An interesting read for our Parents:

### **FILLING YOUR CHILD'S "ATTACHMENT TANK"**

***Tips to building a strong connection with your child by: Andrea Nair***

Most people have heard of the term "attachment" through the phrase "attachment parenting." Separate of that parenting style, the word *attachment*, according to psychologist Mary Ainsworth is "defined as an affectional tie that one person or animal forms between himself and another specific one — a tie that binds them together in space and endures over time."

Children who are securely attached to their parents do better on almost all growth and personality scales. Contrary to what some believe, you can't actually "spoil a child with attention" because the more attention you pour into young children, the more independent they become. This independence is born when a person feels able to be themselves and confident to leave their parent's side.

I refer to someone's attachment connection capacity with his or her parent as an "attachment tank." How full the tank is often affects that child's behaviour and self-confidence.

When a child has a full tank, he/she feels comfortable to wander off on his own, knowing his parent is able to meet his needs as they arise. A child with a full tank doesn't need to beg his parents for attention, because he already feels full of attention — he knows he is seen, heard, and understood.

A child with an empty tank will do anything he can to fill it – in a negative or positive way. Humans have an instinctual desire to feel important so if no one fills that desire, we try to get it filled somehow.

One of the questions I ask families who arrive in my psychotherapy practice is how much one-on-one time they spend with the children. This means time without distractions, or doing something like morning/bedtime routine or house chores.

Often, parents who ask me for help with "bad behaviour" realise the one-on-one time with their child is low. They realise their child's attachment tank is very low or completely empty. The first thing I ask parents to do is spend at least two weeks filling their child's tank. \*If the relationship has really soured, they may need help with learning how to reconnect with children they don't feel like being around.

Here are some of the suggestions I recommend to filling your child's attachment tank (and keeping it full.) Once a tank is full, it is easier to top up. The lower the tank is drained, the longer it takes to fill up again.

### **Create connection points of at least ten or fifteen minutes with each of your children.**

Put your chores and phone down, and join in what your child is doing. Don't hijack the game! Let your child pick the activity.

### **Have a minimum of two of these connection points, and ideally three of them per day.**

Good times to connect are: first thing in the morning, when you first see your children again after being away from them during the day, and before bedtime. If you have to be away from your child and miss these connection points, you can use an *attachment bridge*, which I explain in this article.

### **Use "I see you" statements wherever you can.**

These statements have no judgement and are more like commentaries. Use these when your children are doing something you approve of like, "Hey, I see you helping your sister. Thanks, I appreciate that." Other examples are: "I see you concentrating so well on something that is hard."/"I see you are frustrated. Would you like some help?"

### **Ask questions**

Chat with your child and ask questions about what is important to him/her. It is critical not to judge any answers with something like, "Oh, I'm sure it wasn't that bad." — that can feel invalidating. A more empathetic response is, "Oh, it sounds like that was difficult. How are you doing now?"

### **Dial up the empathy**

Further to my last point, try to imagine how your child is feeling. If it seems one of your kids is "off," be the person that child can turn to for problem solving and a shoulder to cry on.

Some parents say, "I don't need to fill up my child's tank - I'm with him all day!" Actually that may not be accurate. It is possible to be physically with your child all day, but not actually fill up that child's tank. I have seen this in my clients, and know it first hand with my own children.

Good questions that grow awareness of how parents interact with their children are these:

- How does my child feel about himself as a result of spending time with me?
- Does my child feel important?
- Does my child feel like he matters to me?

This is a short introduction to attachment and how to maintain a strong connection with your child. If you are interested in learning more about this, you can come over to my facebook page where I continually post resources for parents.

- See more at: <http://www.yummymummyclub.ca/blogs/andrea-nair-button-pushing/20130818/filling-your-childs-attachment-tank#sthash.OqCBr7Mm.dpuf>

We would like to remind you of the PAC **Ladies' Tea** on **Saturday 13 August 2016**. We kindly request that our parents become actively involved and offer their skills / knowledge where applicable. The date and venue for our **Annual Golf Day** will also be communicated soon.

The contact person for the Ladies' Tea is Ms Liesl Carolissen (womenofworth10@gmail.com / [Carolissen.l@dbe.gov.za](mailto:Carolissen.l@dbe.gov.za)). Further information will be communicated in due course. **See Save the Date invitation on last page.**

Parents, please communicate with your PAC – we would love to hear from you on [curro.thatchfield.pac@gmail.com](mailto: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
	<b>Term 2 Outreach (beanies, scarves &amp; soup)</b>		X
Mon, 30 May	Grade 2 Panarotti's evening		X
Mon, 30 May	Gr 10 & 11 Exams start	X	
Tues, 31 May	Kreatiewe Skryf – Grade 4 to 7 learners Grade 5 Spur evening		X
Wed, 1 Jun	Grade 2 Panarotti's evening		X
Thurs, 2 Jun	English Creative Writing – Grade 4 to 7 learners		X
Fri, 3 Jun	School closes at 13:00 for staff meeting (Curro T-shirt and jeans) Barefoot Day Grade 6 Funky Day	X	X
Sat, 4 Jun	Open Day	X	X
Mon, 6 Jun	Gr 8 & 9 Exams start	X	
<b>Thurs 16 Jun</b>	<b>YOUTH DAY</b>	X	X
<b>Fri, 17 Jun</b>	<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAY</b>	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
<b>Mon, 8 Aug</b>	<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAY</b>	X	X
<b>Tues, 9 Aug</b>	<b>WOMEN'S DAY</b>	X	X

## 8. GENERAL

### **Staff Matters**

Congratulations to **Miss Maryke Hartzenberg**, now Mrs Badenhorst, as well as **Miss Busi Mgidi** who both tied the knot during the holidays. We wish you long and happy marriages.

### **Lost and Found**

The Lost-and-Found room is now located in the L-block and is overseen by Mrs Margaret Nkosi. **We would like to make a special request to our High School learners to make an effort to go and check whether their belongings are not perhaps there as some of the items seem to be that of our bigger children.**

### **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>

### **Waiting Area and Learner Behaviour**

Kindly note that the afternoon waiting area at the Primary School has **moved** to the opposite side of the road. We are really concerned about the learners' behaviour at this area and would appreciate it if parents will also address their children accordingly. **Littering** is also a huge problem at this area and it is quite embarrassing if we welcome some visiting schools and our school is riddled with litter!

## **Safety and Security**

### **Car Remote Jamming at Schools becoming more popular**

Schools are now being targeted by opportunist criminals who use remotes to jam locking devices. While many schools have effective and modern security structures in place, car jamming syndicates are still finding ways to bypass this – and steal from unsuspecting victims.

#### **How do they do it?**

Criminals use a standard 400MHz gate or garage remote control to jam the signal sent by a car remote control, effectively preventing your door locks from engaging. They do this by repeatedly pressing the hidden remote device of their own. The act of repeatedly pressing on their own remote device, whilst in close proximity to you, overwhelms airwaves in the area and blocks the driver's remote signal to the car. These criminals then have enough of time to open the unlocked car, open the boot from the inside and steal items of their choice.

The current trend is that criminals specifically target schools and shopping malls. It is the norm for parents to leave their valuables in their vehicles when they're walking their children to class, which therefore provides the perfect opportunity for criminals to strike.

**Don't become another statistic!** Get proactive and become more aware and vigilant when you are dropping off, and collecting your child from school.

#### **Tips to help you prevent Car Remote Jamming**

- After you have locked your car with your remote, physically check that the doors are locked.
- Report any suspicious looking individuals to the security teams close by.
- If you feel uneasy, trust your instincts, and move your car to an area which is more secure.
- Never leave items of interest and other valuables on your seats or in view of any passers-by.
- Purchase an anti-car jamming device – they are many products in the market so research the best fit for you before you make a purchase.

Visit the Safer Schools website [www.saferschools.co.za](http://www.saferschools.co.za) to read more interesting articles for Schools and Parents.

Parents are once again made aware that children should **look after their belongings and take responsibility** for their Tablets, schoolbags and school clothes. Too often learners report items as stolen, yet they have left their school bag **unattended at the waiting area** whilst they are playing around. You are reminded that the school does offer the option of lockers. Kindly contact Mrs Fourie should you wish to rent a locker.

#### **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**

Thank you to our parents who regularly fulfil their financial obligations. We have received instructions from Head Office that no learners may attend school outings, participate in sport / cultural activities should school fees be in arrears. We really go out of our way to accommodate parents with regards to payment plans as we don't want non-payment of school fees to impact negatively on our children's education. 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**

Lastly, I leave you with this quote to ponder on .....



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](http://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](mailto:info.thatchfieldprimary@curroholdings.co.za)

**H/S:** [info.thatchfieldhigh@curroholdings.co.za](mailto:info.thatchfieldhigh@curroholdings.co.za)

**Castle:** [info.thatchfieldcastle@curroholdings.co.za](mailto:info.thatchfieldcastle@curroholdings.co.za)

**PRC:** [curro.thatchfield.prc@gmail.com](mailto:curro.thatchfield.prc@gmail.com)

### Accounts:

#### Bursar

[Nicolize.j@curroholdings.co.za](mailto:Nicolize.j@curroholdings.co.za)

#### Debtors

[Busiswe.m01@curroholdings.co.za](mailto:Busiswe.m01@curroholdings.co.za) (A to L)

[Malanie.b@curro.co.za](mailto:Malanie.b@curro.co.za) (M to Z)

### Sport – Primary School:

[Musa.m01@curro.co.za](mailto:Musa.m01@curro.co.za)

[Marinda.f02@curro.co.za](mailto:Marinda.f02@curro.co.za)

### Sport – High School:

[Jaco.v01@curro.co.za](mailto:Jaco.v01@curro.co.za)

[Marina.m01@curro.co.za](mailto:Marina.m01@curro.co.za)

### Counsellor:

Suselle Dry (Educator)

(012) 652 2906 or

[suselle.d01@curroholdings.co.za](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Lieslturner@vodamail.co.za)

##### Play Therapist

Anita Potgieter on 084 632 1313

[anita.l.potgieter@gmail.com](mailto:anita.l.potgieter@gmail.com)

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

[danie@urbanlife.org.za](mailto:danie@urbanlife.org.za)

[www.urbanlife.org.za](http://www.urbanlife.org.za)



# Save *The* Date

*Curro Thatchfield  
Annual Ladies Day  
Tea*

Saturday | August 13, 2016  
9.30 for 10.00am  
Curro High School Hall