



Dear Currionians

Greetings to one and all from a much needed glorious, wet and wonderful week. Our dams are filling up, and so too the reservoirs of knowledge acquired by your children.

The past weeks of the first term have witnessed frenetic activity in all the spheres of school endeavour. The Grade 8 learners have been wholly inducted as High School learners who are now completely acquainted with the demands of High School academics, pace, rhythm and expectations. Judging from the Summer Dance one or two Fridays ago, they seem to have fitted right in, enjoying good, clean and safe fun under the watchful eyes of staff. Not only did the girls look and behave as young ladies should, but the boys conducted themselves as young gentlemen. Perhaps I'm too old fashioned, but it amazed me to witness how the young folk were able to dance to a genre of music with seemingly no melody and a rhythm that only they can find. Nevertheless, our in-house DJ 'did his thing' much to the applause and delight of his willing followers, echoing the launch of a commercial song on iTunes by our talented young musicians. Well done to the organisers, staff and children.

Curro Aurora is the bastion of a special, precious atmosphere in the form of loving care, embraced in a respectful environment of nourishing educational opportunity. Curro Aurora will preserve, guard and protect this phenomenon. This includes learner deportment, manners and respect for self, peers, staff, visitors and their environment.

In acquiescence of the non-negotiable trait of respect of the school Code of Conduct, parents and learners are to note that the value and status of any school lies in the hands of each individual learner. This is mirrored in the pride and commitment learners place in their uniform, conduct and the school grounds. To this end, uniform and hair inspections, including audits on jewellery will be the order of the day. Parents are kindly requested to assist by ensuring that their charges comply as they alight from their vehicles or depart from the front door of their homes before the start of each school day.

School Ties

Grit requested that I inform parents of the arrival of the High School ties which can be purchased at R155.00 each from the studio lounge.

Learner Absenteeism

A sober reminder of Curro Aurora policy pertaining to learner absenteeism: It has come to our attention that one or two parents are nonchalantly disregarding Curro Aurora policy by removing their children from school during school time for various reasons. Please be informed that should a doctor's certificate not be produced explaining a learner's absence on a test or Cycle Test day, they will receive 0% for said test. This also holds true for prior notice that a learner will be absent.

Relaxation of this policy will only be granted upon the presentation of a doctor's certificate or when a learner is representing the school for a condoned occasion. Re-test sessions are not to be misinterpreted as alternative assessment opportunities mitigating absence from a test.

Perusing the articles which follow, I can only congratulate staff and learners with the support of parents and the APT on impressive achievements to date.

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CLASS OF 2021

The Grade 8s High School career is off to an excellent start! Their Orientation Day was jam-packed with adventurous fun and it was an excellent opportunity for the Grade 8s to get to know one another and the leaders of the school. The culmination of the Grade 8 programme was the Induction Evening. This ceremony formally acknowledged each Grade 8 as a High School learner. The leaders welcomed each learner as they donned their blazers for the first time. At this ceremony, the Class of 2021 acknowledged their role in the future of Curro Aurora, just as the leaders of 2017 had done in 2012. We have high hopes for the Class of 2021, and hope that the rest of their year continues to be as spectacular as the start.

GRADE 8





EQUESTRIAN

The 2017 equestrian season got off to an excellent start with a number of our riders placing in the first Inter-Schools Qualifier. The results of this round are as follows:

Chevaun Barker :	
Equitation 60cm level 1	2 nd place
Katherine James:	
Performance Riding level 1	3 rd place
Working Riding level 1	2 nd place
Prix Caprilli level 1 beginner test 1	8 th place
Prix Caprilli level 1 beginner test 2	5 th place
Nicole Duvenage:	
Performance Riding level 5	3 rd place
Working Riding level 5	1 st place
Equitation 90cm	scratched
Prix Caprilli Novice test 1	3 rd place
Prix Caprilli Novice test 2	4 th place
Paula de Lancey:	
Equitation 70cm	1 st place
Working Hunter 70cm	1 st place

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**eSPORTS**

Curro Aurora Gaming LAN Marathon 3rd March 2017

On Friday night, 3rd March 2017, our hard-core Gamers will once again, “fight the good fight” and defend their team against all comers. Controlled by our intrepid IT Grade 12 learners: Aidan, Brenton, Caryck, Damian, Dylan, Jarryd, Renzo and Thishen, and with the willing and enthusiastic technological support of Mr Weideman, Dr Blieden and Mr Appelman, the Gamers will fight on through the night and into the next day. This year we have opened up the Gaming LAN to BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) and have made provision for Game Consoles such as Xboxes, PSs and Wiis. We hope that this event will be as successful as the first event last year and will also enable us to trial the network for eSports. If all goes well, we would like to offer eSports at Curro Aurora as a viable after-school activity to our many Gamers on Campus. Tickets for the 3rd March can be purchased from any of the Grade 12 IT learners at a cost of R50. We can only accommodate 40 players, so it will be on a “first come, first served” basis. Don’t delay, sign up today!

STREET DANCE

Street Dance is proving to be a popular dance sport, and the dancers are displaying great dedication and enthusiasm. On Saturday 11th February, the Curro Aurora Street Dancing team, Blue Fusion, competed against North Riding College, Hoërskool Randburg and Allen Glen High in the first Dance Sports School League competition of 2017. The team achieved outstanding results, with dancers achieving places in every category:

Open girls: Themika Padayachee (2nd)
 Open boys: Kabelo Sithole (3rd)
 U16 boys: Jordan van Wyk (1st)
 U16 girls: Tatum Govender (3rd)
 U14 boys: Siphesihle Mahlangu (1st), Liam Bosman (3rd)
 U14 girls: Lebogang Luthuli (3rd)

On Friday 17th February, the team competed against Queens High, Rand Girls’ High School and North Riding College. Jordan van Wyk finished 1st in the U16 boys event.

KARTING

Blaine Rademeyer (Grade 8) got his 2017 Northern Regions High School Junior Max Karting Championships off to an excellent start when he stood out head and shoulders above the rest at the Zwartkops Raceway. After a tough but well-deserved first win, he led the way in the final two races right from the start. He is definitely a young man worth watching out for as he powers his way around the circuit! For more information on his win, go to:



<http://www.motorsportmedia.co.za/article.asp?conID=11708#prettyPhoto>

Please note that the winter sports programme has started, and fixtures will begin soon

**PUBLIC SPEAKING**

The Speech and Drama Guild of South Africa's High School Public Speaking Festival is well underway, with three of our teams already having competed in the competition.

Each four-person team is required to present a cohesive line of thinking, with each speaker presenting a unique interpretation of the topic. The topic for the seniors this year is to use an idiom to inspire their speeches, and the junior teams are required to use a line from a musical production. The Grade 10 impromptu team will receive their topic on the evening, and will be given 15 minutes in which to prepare their team's presentation of the same length. The Grade 12 three-person Trophy Team has an open topic, as does individual speaker. The individual speaker, however, is required to present both a prepared and an impromptu speech.

Congratulations to the following teams who all achieved A symbols for their speeches:

Grade 12:

"The grass is greener on the other side"

Chairperson: Rosette Mpofo
 Speaker 1: Charmaine Tom
 Speaker 2: Paula de Lancey
 Speaker 3: Brenton Budler

Grade 11:

"Not all that glitters is gold"

Chairperson: Oluwatoni Ojo-Akinkunmi
 Speaker 1: Cheyanne Dare
 Speaker 2: Anisa Matshikiza
 Speaker 3: Masilo Silokazi

"Don't beat around the bush"

Chairperson: Sumisha Dharamphal
 Speaker 1: Amy Conradie
 Speaker 2: Charissa Pick
 Speaker 3: Aletta Nevobasi

The remainder of our teams will be speaking between now and the end of March, so please come along and support them in their endeavours. All team competitions start promptly at 19h00, apart from the Grade 10 impromptu team, who will start at 18h30.

Grade 8	Hoërskool Randburg (16 th March)
Grade 9	Curro Aurora (28 th February) – <i>this is at home!</i> <i>Please support!</i>
Grade 10 (prepared)	St. Catherine's Florida (13 th March)
Grade 10 (impromptu)	Northcliff High School (9 th March)
Grade 12 (individual)	Yeshiva College (7 th March)
Grade 12 (Trophy Team)	King David Victory Park (14 th March)



SUMMER SOCIAL

The first social event of the year took on a cultural twist thanks to the clever thinking of the Matric Council members. The high school had a wonderful evening dancing and singing along to the performances of their peers who sang, danced and DJ'd. They were also treated a very special performance by LMNS, who launched their first official single at the social. LMNS is made up of Rae-Juan Still (Grade 10), Dani Bosman (Grade 9) and Vivi Mvundle (Grade 9). These young ladies have been signed to Rayna Music and are set to take the music world by storm! For more information on the band, and to follow their successes, follow them on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/officiallmns/>. Their first single, "Cry No More" is available for download on iTunes, or listen via livestreaming on Apple Music or Deezer.

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PI DAY

Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th (3/14) around the world. Pi (the Greek letter “ π ”) is the symbol used in Mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159.

Pi has been calculated to over one trillion digits beyond its decimal point. As an irrational and transcendental number, it will continue infinitely without repetition or pattern. While only a handful of digits are needed for typical calculations, Pi’s infinite nature makes it a fun challenge to memorize, and to computationally calculate more and more digits.

OLYMPIAD DATES

Please note the following South African Olympiad dates:

English	7 th March
Mathematics (Round 1)	15 th March

GRADE 12 CAREERS EXHIBITION

The Grade 12s had the privilege of attending a careers exhibition designed to promote centres of learning other than the more traditional, mainstream university campuses. The exhibition not only presented alternative institutions, but also a variety of career opportunities. This type of exhibition is invaluable to our Grade 12 learners, so thank you to Mrs Donna van Dyk and the Life Orientation Department for arranging this enlightening experience.





DESIGN EXHIBITION

The Grade 11 and 12 Design students exhibited their work from the 2016 academic year, and faced a mock moderation process (in which the candidates are quizzed about their concept, rationale and final product) in order to prepare them for the final IEB moderation they will face at the end of their Matric year. The quality of work on display was absolutely outstanding – it is clear to see why our Design department produces consistently brilliant results and builds on the creative confidence of our exceptionally talented students.

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Amy Conradie (Grade 11)



Tayla Kennedy (Grade 11)



Jade Buitendag (Grade 12)



Shaelyn Henderson (Grade 12)



For photos of all the artworks on display, please see the *HS: Design Exhibition* album on our Facebook page.



SPORTS RESULTS:

Date	Sport	Opponents/Hosts/Event/Venue	Result
Cricket			
Wed 18/01	Cricket	1 st vs Jeppe High School Boys' 2 nd @Curro Aurora	1 st : Lost by 8 Wickets
Wed 25/01	Cricket	Pecanwood College 1 st @Curro Aurora u15 @Pecanwood	1 st : Won by 9 Wickets U15: Won by 7 Wickets
Thu 26/01	Cricket	@Bryanston High School	1 st : Won by 54 Runs U15: Lost by 27 runs
Wed 01/02 Thu 02/02	Cricket	@Maragon Private School	1 st : Lost by 2 wickets U15: Lost by 57 runs
Sat 04/02	Cricket	Hoërskool Dinamika 1 st @Curro Aurora u15 @Dinamika	1 st : Won by 4wickets U15: Lost by 20 runs
Sat 11/02	Cricket	@St Peter's College	1 st : Won by 22 Runs U15: Lost by 8 Wickets
Wed 15/02	Cricket	@King David Linksfield	1 st : Lost by 54 Runs
Sat 18/02	Cricket	HeronBridge College 1 st @HeronBridge u15 @Curro Aurora	1 st : Won by 2 wickets U15: Lost by 170 Runs
Softball			
Mon 23/01	Softball	@Summerhill College	Combined 1 st /u15 won 18-1
Wed 25/01	Softball	@Summit College	1 st won 13-3 U15 won 17-7
Wed 15/02	Softball	Sagewood College @Curro Aurora	Combined 1 st /u15 won 22-0
Golf			
Mon 23/01	Golf 'A'	@Bryanston CC	1. Curro Aurora 2. Trinityhouse RPR 3. St Stithians 4. KES
	Golf 'B'	@Rand Park GC	1. Curro Aurora 'B' 2. St Albans 'B' 3. Trinityhouse RPR 'B' 4. HeronBridge 'B'
Mon 06/02	Golf 'A'	@Centurion GC	1. St Alban's 2. Curro Aurora 3. Beaulieu
	Golf 'B'	@Centurion GC	1. Curro Aurora 'B' 2. St Albans 'B' 3. Cornwall Hill
Tue 07/02	Golf 'A'	@Observatory GC	1. St John's 2. Curro Aurora 3. Trinityhouse RPR 4. St Stithians 'B'.
Tue 14/02	Golf 'A'	@Randpark GC	1. Curro Aurora 2. Woodlands 3. St John's 'B'



Mon 13/02	Golf 'B'	@Randpark GC	4. Beaulieu 1. Curro Aurora 'B' 2. Trinityhouse RPR 'B' 3. Crawford Benmore
Mon 20/02	Golf 'A'	@Randpark GC	1. St Alban's 2. Curro Aurora 3. St John's 4. Jeppe
Tennis			
Fri 03/02	Boys' Tennis 'A'	Northcliff High School 'C' @Curro Aurora	Won
Mon 06/02	Boys' Tennis 'B'	Trinity Little Falls 'B' @Curro Aurora	Lost
Thu 09/02	Girls' Tennis	@Pecanwood College	Won 44-19
Fri 10/02	Boys' Tennis 'A'	@De La Salle 'C'	Won
Mon 13/02	Boys' Tennis 'B'	@Dainfern College 'B'	Lost
Wed 15/02	Boys' Tennis 'B'	Sagewood College 'B' @Curro Aurora	Won
Thu 16/02	Girls' Tennis	Waterstone College @Curro Aurora	Lost 49-14

Closing Message

Traditionally, the closing weeks of the first term and the winter sports programme accompanied by the looming mid-year examinations of the second term are very demanding. Prudent application of sound management skills is required by all students in order to negotiate the challenging demands on time, energy reserves as well as personal resolve.

Staff and learners at Curro Aurora are very much aware of the academic targets in place to ensure that each learner achieves to their personal best. Should a learner not be pulling their weight, parents can expect a phone call from the Grade and or Phase Head to insist that learners live up to their academic commitments.

We live in a competitive and sometimes harsh world which can at times overwhelm us with frustrations, irritations and the disappointment of failure. The lessons learned at school extend far beyond the curriculum. These are invariably the real lessons of life.

A thought to ponder:

***When life puts you in tough situations:
Don't say, "Why me?"
Say, "Try me!"***

THE GOOD VIBE CO.

Wishing all learners, staff and parents a successful winter sports season.

Blessings,

**Dr. Richard Kieck
Operational Headmaster
Curro Aurora
High School**