



High School Term 1: 2018

Celebrating the Curro journey 20 years down the road in the Aurora idiom

Aurora is one of Curro's longstanding schools, being amongst the first previously established schools to be acquired by Curro Holdings. This evolution entailed a change in management and numerous mind shifts for parents, learners and educators to result in a blend of growing success.

Casting our minds back to the time of Curro's inception, world events - amongst others – witnessed the passing away of Princess Diana, Nelson Mandela meeting the Spice Girls and commenting that it was one of the greatest moments of his life, the largest music concert in history was played by Jean-Michel Jarre in Moscow: it was attended by 3,500,000 people. The top song was *Candle in the Wind*, the most frequented movies were Titanic, Men In Black and The Lost World: Jurassic Park; and, technologically, the world was introduced to WiFi. To many, these landmarks in time feel like it was 'yesterday'.

Academics

The term to date has already celebrated highlights. In January at the annual Curro Gala Awards ceremony at Emperor's Palace, Aurora together with other leading Curro schools, achieved Matric results of which to be proud. Aurora's 84 2017's Matric candidates produced 100 distinctions shadowed by 14 79%^s. Overall distinction averages per matriculant delivered one graduate with 8, three with 7, one with 6, one with 4, fifteen with 3, sixteen with 2 and twenty-five attaining at least one.



The norm average of the High School across the board is also steadily on the rise. This is borne by the fact that 11 of the GET and FET subjects offered by Curro have Aurora educators as

Subject Advisors, representing 13 schools in the Northern Curro cluster. This reassuring and proud statistic translates into our learners being in good academic hands.

2018 sees Curro Aurora offering Music as an IEB Matric subject as numerous changes, growth and expansion of the Performing Arts Academy take their rightful place in the school's academic and cultural offerings.

Aurora's cultural future has received an additional injection of passion, strategic growth and variety. This was aptly mirrored on Kyknet's *Uitblinkers* programme as Aurora featured in a cultural showcase, doing our school most proud.



Public Speaking saw Aurora competing with the best schools in Johannesburg and walking away with several A⁺s and A symbols while debating witnessed our school successfully holding its own in esteemed company as our debaters impressed the competition, adjudicators and (naturally) their parents and teachers.

Aletta Nevobasi and Thato Mosiua received a Certificate of Excellence for their skills in hosting a public speaking event and the Grade 8 and 9 public speaking teams were placed as runner's up in a festival of 105 competing schools. Camden Jenner, our individual speaker, was invited as one of only five speakers to participate in the Individual Speaker competition – a first in Aurora's history. These are outstanding achievements!



Curro 20 is an opportunity of a lifetime. Learners from all the Curro schools nationally were invited to submit video auditions to be considered for the production being produced to celebrate Curro's 20th year of existence. Only 20 learners have been selected for this opportunity. We, at Curro

Aurora, are incredibly proud to announce that two of our learners were selected. They will spend a month in Cape Town, rehearsing and working with professional theatre practitioners. Huge congratulations go to **Alicia Ferguson** and **Hayley Conradie**.

Sport

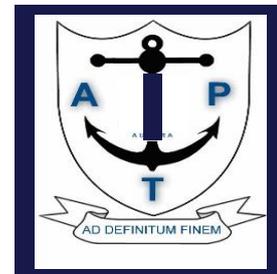
Sport produced Aurora's familiar proud results as the school rallied behind the newly introduced mascot named **IKEMBA**



Curro regional sports trials for our region were hosted at Aurora over 16 and 17 March 2018. This sporting occasion delivered a tournament to be proud of as our school sports management, facilities and organisation served as an impressive platform to amalgamate and display quality in pursuit of service excellence, despite inclement weather. Our athletes, staff, coaches and umpires delivered their best and are complimented on providing an exemplary trials festival.

APT

The Association of Parents and Teachers (APT) also pitched heart and soul in addition to 'elbow grease and their backs' into the mix to provide scrumptious eats to fuel activities over the two days. They are sincerely thanked for their time, toil and effort.



Expansion of Aurora's Facilities

This year commenced with important additions to the school's footprint. The additional sports field alongside Beyers Naude Drive has opened numerous additional opportunities to accommodate expanded sporting activity. The additional cricket pitch is most appreciated.

The keenly anticipated construction of the new school hall is underway.

The noise, dust, disruption and vibrations of the earthmoving machinery are constant reminders that progress is steadily being made. As previously stated, long after the final echoes of the departing machinery and final nail, screw and fittings have been secured, the benefits and opportunities encapsulated in our new hall, will be to the rich benefit of all.

A thought to ponder



Close

As we reflect on a term filled with results and the hustle and bustle of driven, productive Curro education, we pause to measure both our personal and Aurora's progress.

As Easter knocks on the door, it serves as an occasion to gauge the direction and consequences of our choices in keeping with our goals. It is an opportunity to centre our school, work, personal, spiritual lives and growth.

On behalf of the 'Curro Aurora Family' I use this opportunity to thank our Executive Head, Mr. J.C. Engelbrecht, my inspired School Management Team, educators, administrative staff, APT, the printing room, coaches, our estate manager and his team for their tireless dedicated service this term.

Learners and parents are extended an Easter blessing, trusting upon their safe return to resume the continuing celebrations in the Aurora terms which follow.

We trust the Easter Bunny remembers to deliver and hide your favourite chocolate mementoes and eggs.

Dr Richard Kieck
Head of High School

