



CURRO

Durbanville

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CURRO COMMUNIKÉ

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FROM THE PRINCIPALS OFFICE

We are very excited to be back and we're looking forward to an exciting 2018 where we shall celebrate the school's 20th birthday.

A special word of welcome to all our new learners, parents and staff members. We trust that you will soon feel part of our wonderful Curro family.

Several parents know the history of Curro, but I'd like to share a brief summary of how dr Chris van der Merwe's dream realized into reality. Many learners, parents, families, friends, staff members and the community have been part of the prosperity of this beautiful campus and dynamic school – Curro Durbanville, the flag ship school.

A dream comes true.... (a brief summary)

It all started around a camp fire, with the drawing of a school with pillars on a matchbox. Dr Chris van der Merwe dreamed of starting his own private school.

Dr Van der Merwe displayed initiative early in 1998, by starting with 28 learners in the Bergsig Dutch Reformed Church. Ms Saretha Louw, dr Van der Merwe and mr Boetie Ungerer were the educators. Mr Thys Franken and mr Eddie Conradie joined forces and together these five educators continued working hard to make this dream a success. They moved to the 7 Eleven, opposite the Bergsig church, where it was jokingly referred to as the “smallest school with the largest tuck shop”.

The Grade RR and R learners were accommodated in a small house in Park Street. Ms Stephanie van der Merwe sometimes converted one of the Rooms in their house into a classroom.

During May of 1999 dr. Van der Merwe started building the Primary School with 10 bricklayers and 30 labourers and at the start of 2000, learners moved into the building with a total of 342 learners. It was a day to remember on Day 1 when big white chairs were packed in front of the hall for an aerial photo to be taken. All the learners had school in this building and the staff used one staff room. There was no hall for assemblies, no sport fields, no tennis courts and no parking. Assemblies were held in the staff room. Step by step things started happening. Trees were planted, the high school building was built, the school song was composed, the tennis courts and the sports fields were developed. Our current staff room was used as a hall and later the “hall” moved to the high school. Our beautiful hall was built in 2007 – a proud moment for all of us.

The Koopmans building housed the offices, later it became a playschool and currently it is the Aftercare center.

In 2014, our campus expanded by building the beautiful indoor, heated swimming pool. The Astro hockey field was also added.

For those of us who have been part of the school's growth, we can only look back with astonishment and gratitude.

Currently we have a Curro Castle for babies up to 5 years and beautiful modern facilities on our campus. Twenty years later we can boast with 1 665 learners in contrast with the initial 28 learners in 1998. Dr Chris moved on and is now involved with STADIO (the development of universities). From July 2017, Mr Andries Greyling has been the CEO of Curro Holdings. Curro is a listed company on the stock exchange since 2011.

We celebrate this dream that came true during 2018!

Activities

Carnival: Friday, 23 February

Big Birthday: 17 July

Celebration Production: The Sound of Music

We trust that all our parents and learners will enjoy it with us!

Olivia van Heerden



A word of welcoming...

Girls and boys, Curro offers opportunities to perform on academic, cultural and sports level. In this way, we also develop as human beings. This year is a very special year, because here at Curro Durbanville we celebrate 20 years of excellence.

Let's build on the 20 years of excellence by focusing on our goals and endeavor to give 100% in everything we do. My wish for all Curro learners is that it will be a memorable year. May the Grade 7 learners especially have a wonderful last year in primary school. Enjoy every moment and create memories that you can carry for the rest of your life. Remember: "SEMPER CURRO" - Always a runner - always a winner.



I'd like to leave you with this message: Philippians 3:12 - 14. "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

So give it your all in what you do this year and trust that the Lord will give you all the strength you need.

Joshua Beckley

Head Boy 2018

Mr van Zyl, Miss Van Heerden, teachers and fellow pupils, it is a privilege for me to bring this message to you.

Joshua and I want to give a special welcome to all the new educators, learners and especially the new Grade 1 learners.

For old and existing students we want to say that it is good to see all the familiar faces again.

We know that 2018 will offer Curro learners plenty of opportunities and we want to challenge you to become involved in sports and cultural activities. In this way we can build on a tight Curro family.

Curro not only helps us to develop academically, but also helps to shape well-balanced learners. This can be attributed to the devotion of the educators and the hard work and co-operation of each learner.

We would like to encourage you to be worthy of the six pillars of character building; fairness, caring, respect, responsibility, trustworthiness and good citizenship. Let us work together so that our behavior can reflect these pillars.

Jenna Eagar

Head Girl 2018



Curro educators

Welcome!

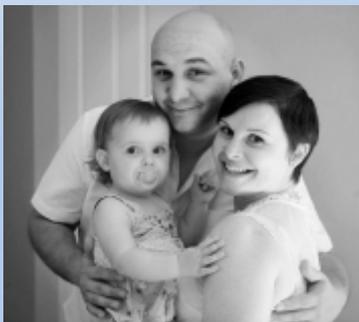
MEET OUR NEW EDUCATORS!

Curro Durbanville Primary School appointed nine new professional educators at the start of this academic year, as well as one new administrative staff member.

They are, pictured (f.l.t.r),
back row: Lianne Britz (Grade R Afrikaans), Janetta van Wyk (Grade 7 English), Liezl Coetzer (Grade 1 English).
Middle row (f.l.t.r): Nadia Zeelie (Grade R English), Nicole Barnes (Grade 7 English), Chandrè Boer (Grade 3 English), Suné Nel (Grade 6 Afrikaans).
Front row (f.l.t.r): Liana Erasmus (Grade 4 Afrikaans), Jeanne Potgieter (Grade 6 English), Lijani Groenewald (Administration).



Congratulations!



Congratulations to teacher Yolandé Zeelie who got engaged during the December holidays. We wish her all the best for the future.



Congratulations to teacher Beryl with the birth of their baby boy, Cooper Ruben Vermaak. Born February 1, 2018. May he bring you a lot of joy.



First school day



CURRO DURBANVILLE'S FIRST SCHOOL DAY OF 2018!

Our campus came to life this morning as our learners returned for the new academic year. From the youngest Grade Rs and Grade 1s, who bravely said goodbye to their parents to take their first steps into their Primary School career; to the oldest on our campus, our Matrics, who will embark on their last stretch of High School this year – everyone seemed to be incredibly happy to be back with their school family again. 2018... here we come!

Curro Council Meet and Greet



To be elected to the Curro Council is a privilege for a few grade 6 learners that should not be taken lightly. Leadership qualities, hard work and an impeccable example are just a few of the characteristics that make a person a good leader.

With great pride, we can say that the 2018 members of the Curro Council already have many of the abovementioned qualities and potential to develop in great leaders.

The members of the Curro Council and their parents were invited to attend a meet and greet function on Wednesday, 31 January 2018. During this occasion, in the school's staffroom, parents and learners had the opportunity to get to know each other better.

Each member of the Curro Council has been given an individual opportunity to give his / her goals, as leader for 2018. After that, everybody lit a candle to remind him / her that his / her light should shine throughout the year.

Ten important features of a successful leader were presented by Ms Elmarié Coetsee. Council members could identify with some of the qualities they already have and will strive to learn and perfect the others in the future. The parents were encouraged to encourage and support their children.

In conclusion, the example of wild geese in flight was used to illustrate how leaders support and complement each other in their duties.

Grade 6 Camp



Curro Durbanville's Grade 6 Camp took place at Back-2-Basics in Grabouw this past week.

Over the course of two days our Grade 6 learners participated in many excellent activities which focused on team building, personal development and nature.

100 learners and 6 educators enjoyed a brilliant, well-organized and super-fun camping experience together.

Grade 7 camp



On Wednesday, January 24th, Curro's Grade 7s of 2018 were very excited, dressed in their green 20-year shirts ready for their Grade 7 camp at "Big Oak Adventures" in Franschhoek, one of the many highlights on the Grade 7 year calendar .

With two full-buses, parents were waved goodbye, leaving Curro singing.

At Big Oaks, the learners were kindly welcomed by the staff, and started immediately with team-building activities. Afterwards they were divided into different rooms. Divided into their groups, they went to cool down in the rock pools and had a walk into the beautiful mountains.

Back at the camp, they gathered firewood, made their own fires and cooked hamburgers. Groups had to decorate their own tables and enjoyed their self made burgers.

Cellphones were taken in, and despite no signal between the mountains there was no use for their phones. The learners went to bed exhausted, or so did the educators think...

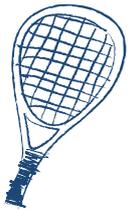
The next morning, the grade 7s tidied up the rooms and after breakfast a day started filled with activities, including obstacle course, dodge ball, team building activities and a nice swim in a mountain pool.

The evening after dinner they entertained the staff with a concert on red riding hood with a twist.

The Grade 7s were tired when they went to bed. On Friday morning, after breakfast, rooms were cleaned and the buses made their appearance again to take tired, dirty and happy learners back to school.

Many thanks to Grade 7 staff and Big Oak Adventures, for creating new memorable memories.

Sport Safari



Today Curro Durbanville's Grade 1 learners had the opportunity to try out the different sporting codes currently available at our campus. Under the guidance of the Grade 6 learners, the Grade 1s moved from station to station where they were introduced to the various sporting codes, the equipment involved and the terrain on which the sport is played.

A little bit of peer-to-peer sports training and development, as was done by our ever-so-patient Grade 6 learners today, will most certainly go a long way in fostering a love for sports amongst these little ones.

'High Fives' and encouragement was the order of the day as our Grade 1s learnt a great deal more about netball, tennis, hockey, rugby, cricket and ball skills.

The morning ended with the Grade 6 learners sitting with the Grade 1s and taking care of story time.



Sunset social



SUNSET SOCIAL 2018

Curro Durbanville is celebrating their 20th birthday this year and the annual Sunset Social, held on Friday, 2 February was the first opportunity to start with these celebrations. The Sunset Social is a tradition on our Curro calendar. It is an evening where everyone can relax, laugh and have fun and it gives parents, educators and learners the opportunity to get to know each other better. New Curro parents also had the opportunity to meet parents from their grade.

BOOGIE FEVER 20 YEARS & BACK was the theme for this year's Sunset Social. Learners and parents were all invited to dress up as their favourite pop star, to bring along their picnic baskets and to come and boogie on the rhythm of music from way back then, till now. There was a big variety of characters . . . Michael Jacksons, ballerinas, pop rockers, Elvis Presleys, hip hoppers and many more. The lawn in front of the primary school was jampacked and parents enjoyed the evening with their friends. The Grade Rs and their parents had their picnic and dances in the quad.

Every grade had the opportunity to show off their dance moves in the hall. Winners in different categories were chosen, like the best "Dancing Queen", "King of Rock and Roll" and the best dressed. Learners really enjoyed dancing together in their grades and moving their bodies to different types of dances. A smoke machine and real disco lights contributed to a wonderful and festive dance atmosphere in the hall. Glow sticks were for sale and it was a beautiful sight with all the different colours glowing in the dark.

The Sunset Social was, like every previous year, a great success thanks to all the enthusiastic parents and learners attending this event. Everyone from big to small, rocker to ballerina, thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Chess



Zanté & Jesse

1 CAPE OF GOOD HOPE CHESS TOURNAMENT

On 27 January 2018, the following learners participated in the abovementioned event hosted at the Bellville Technical School and we are so proud of their results:

Jesse Palmer	D section	3 rd
Zanté Palmer	C section	3 rd girl

2 SAJCC: SOUTH AFRICAN JUNIOR CLOSED CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

This 2017 event was hosted in Boksburg from 3 – 12 January 2018. At this event, players represent the Western Province.

We are so very proud of the following results:

Ethan Joel van Heerden	u.10	WP B	silver
Declan Olkers	u.10	WP A	silver
Caitlyn Olkers	u.10 Girls	WP A	silver



V.l.n.r: Declan Olkers, Caitlyn Olkers & Ethan van Heerden

3. PRIZE GIVING AND AWARDS

Since our last CC, the WP Chess annual prize giving was hosted on 5 December 2017. The following awards were presented: 1. 2017 Primary School Chess Team of the Year: Curro Durbanville. 2. Primary School Chess Player of the Year: Andreas de Jager. Congratulations on this brilliant achievement!

4. CHESS STAFF

On Saturday, 25 November 2017, our chess coordinator, Ms Charmaine Rossouw, attended an annual general meeting, followed by a chess educator and administrator training workshop, level 1. We would like to congratulate her with her certificate and a score of 85,11%.

5. METRO NORTH DISTRICT TEAM

On Friday, 9 and Saturday, 10 February, 14 of our learners participated in the Metro North District Individual trials, hosted at Ravensmead Secondary school.

The following learners had been selected to the Metro North District team:

u.9	u.11	u.13
no. 1 Declan Olkers - gold	no. 1 Reegan Palmer - gold	no. 1 Kieran Samuels - gold
no. 2 Jesse Palmer - silver	no. 10 Drake Dicks	no. 9 Ryan Perkins
no. 6 Christof Dreyer	no. 1 Caitlyn Olkers - gold (girl)	no. 1 ZantéPalmer - gold (girl)
no. 10 Aiden Nel	no. 3 Milla Vorster - bronze (girl)	no. 3 Natasha Joubert - bronze (girl)
no. 1 Hannah v Heerden - gold (girl)	Ethan v Heerden (Reserve)	

Congratulations to all our players who have achieved a Top 10 - position! SEMPER CURRO!

Music

MUSIC NEWS 2018

The Music Department has expanded and altogether 280 learners will be taking music this year! For the first time ever, we will be offering tuition in ukulele. A third marimba-orchestra will also be formed this year! Music learners can now choose between tuition in piano, recorder, violin, clarinet, singing, guitar, keyboard, saxophone, accordion, trumpet, ukulele and drums. If you are interested, please contact the Music Department.

Cake sale

A huge thank you to our music parents for supporting the Valentine's cake sale so wonderfully! Thank you for the effort you took to pack and decorate the cakes with such care. It is clear that our music parents are not only excellent class bakers, but very artistic too. The funds that was raised will be used to the benefit of the Music Department and music learners.

Choir

An exciting choir year lies ahead. This year we will not be taking part in the Tygerberg Eisteddfod, as all the choirs are actively involved in the 'Sound of Music' production. We will however take part in the Kaapse Afrikaanse Eisteddfod during August.

Concerts

We are planning a really exciting series of concerts in the Auditorium this year.

- On **3 March** the Jamrock @ Curro concert will take place. Guitar- and drumming learners will get an opportunity to perform on stage. Tickets are R50 per person.
- **20 March** is the date of this year's family concert - an event which is always exciting and lots of fun. At this concert, music learners are encouraged to present an item with their family members! We are looking forward to see our musical and talented parents perform with their children. The music teachers will also present a surprize item. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this special evening with us. Tickets will be sold at R30 per person.
- On **24 March** one of our music teachers, Mr Pieter van Zyl, who has performed overseas several times, will give a piano recital in the Auditorium. We hope that our music learners and parents will attend this concert!

A huge thank you to each parent for giving their child the opportunity to learn music!

