

NEWSLETTER

Date: 5 March 2018
From the Office of the Executive Head

MERIDIAN
Pinehurst

Dear Parents/ Guardians

Meridian Pinehurst is home to 1739 young people from 4months to 18 years. It is our challenge always to keep our home happy.

We strive always to make this a place where we have fun and where we care.

As a result, it is very important that we listen to our stakeholders, whether they be parents, staff and the learners themselves.

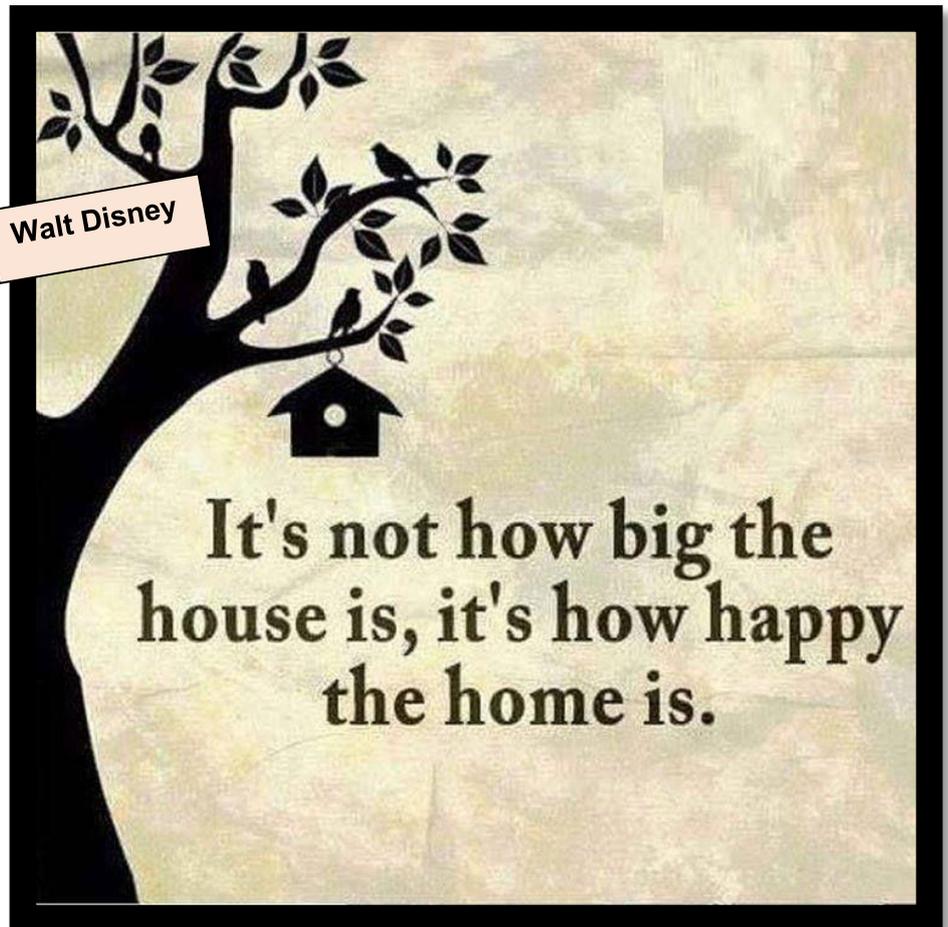
Each year the

Your Voice

Parent Satisfaction Survey is sent out to all parents to ascertain what we are doing right and where we need to make adjustments.

These online surveys will take a few minutes of your time but provide us with a wealth of data with which we can make informed decisions about our school. The link to the survey will be sent out this week and we would greatly appreciate your taking the time to give us clear feedback.

At Meridian Pinehurst we take this exercise very seriously and welcome constructive criticism . Do also tell us what we are doing well and where you are happy with our school. We are at all times family. And we want our home to be happy.



Primary School Fun Fair

Many thanks to the staff and parents who worked so hard to prepare and run the successful Fun Fair on Saturday. Despite the heat everyone toiled in, great fun was had by all. The profit will be announced as soon as we have finished the calculations, but I am sure you will be happy to know that the proceeds from this fundraising event will go towards providing shade at the school in the form of branded umbrellas which will adorn our quads (and definitely assist with shade for future carnivals as well).



Welcome to the family

On Thursday we welcomed **Nurse Lesley-Ann Brikkels** to the Nursery. She comes to us from the trauma unit at the Cape Gate MEDI CLINIC and was well worth the wait, especially since Mrs Brikkels is also a parent at our school. It is a relief though to have this position filled at last and we thank parents for being patient in this regard. I am sure she will soon have the measure of this position and know all her little patients well.

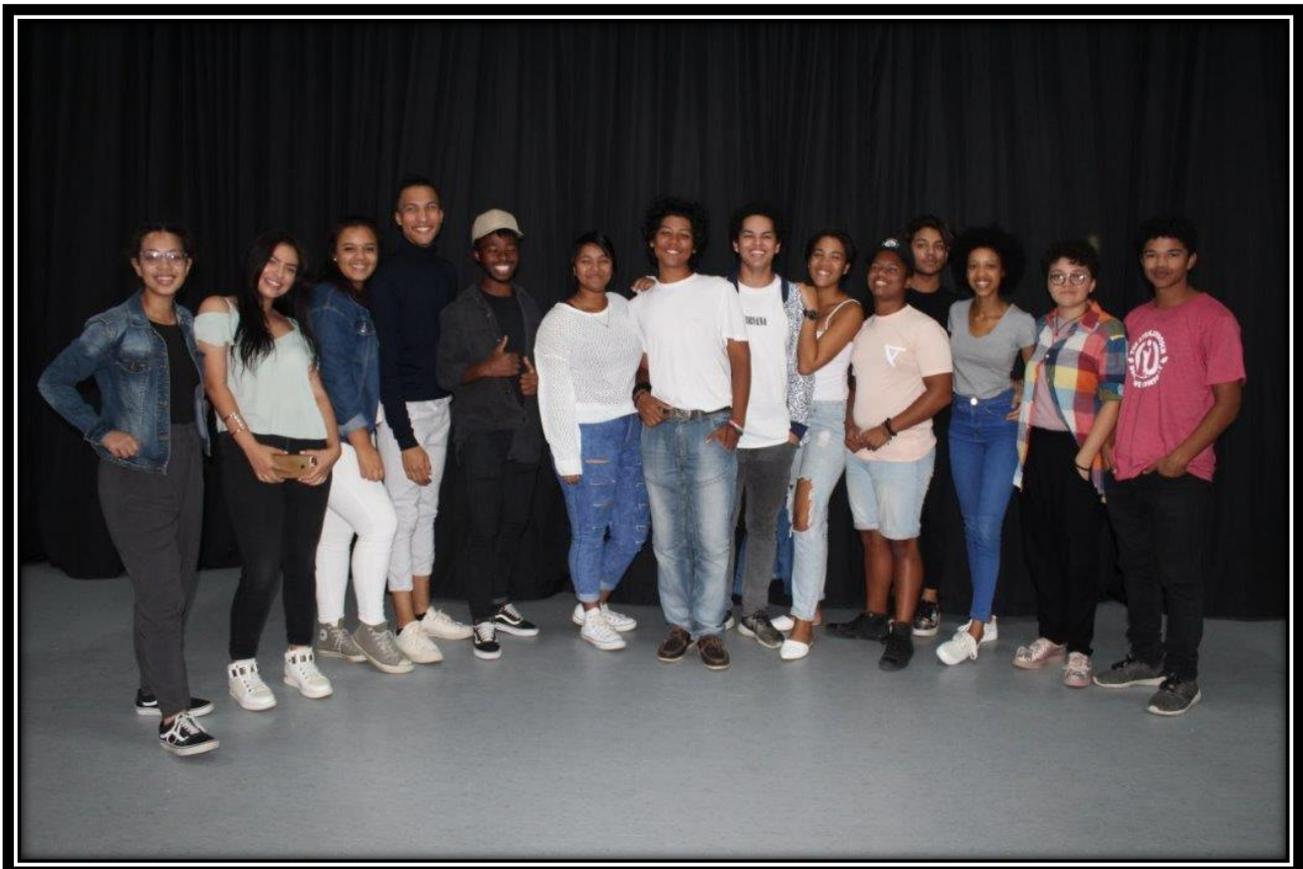
Alumni News

News from the Class of 2017 shows that Meridian Pinehurst's learners have been well-prepared in both the Sciences and the Arts:

Eunsong Kim is studying Engineering.

Bevan Blankenberg (he of the 98% for Visual Arts fame) received a full scholarship to study Fine Arts at UCT's Michaelis School of Fine Arts.

A group of our first alumni gathered together with their former educators and classmates for the launch of the Pinehurst Alumni Association on Wednesday last week. It is encouraging to hear how our youngsters are not seeing matric as the end of their studies, and are flourishing in their chosen studies. Furthermore their comments about how well prepared they feel at their tertiary institutions, having come through the hands of the Meridian Pinehurst educators, is proof of the quality of staff we have educating your children.



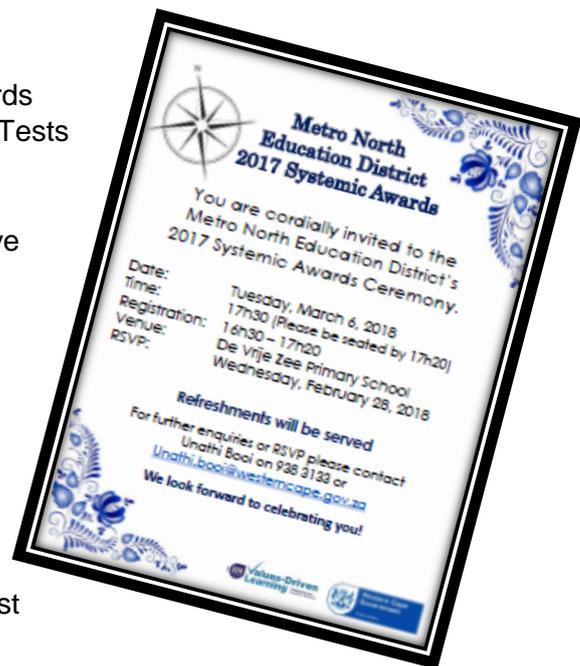
Systemic Tests Awards Ceremony

The school has also been invited to attend the awards ceremony of the WCED this week for the Systemic Tests written last year. We eagerly await what award the school will receive, but as reported last week, the school scored consistently approximately 20% above the WCED schools and well above the top state schools in our area.

There is no doubt that your children's teachers are committed and skilled.

Kelsey Julies' art makes the front page

You may remember that last year Kelsey Julies' artwork won second place in the Cape Leopard Trust National Art Competition.



Kelsey's work has been chosen to adorn the cover of the trust's 2018 calendar. What an honour!

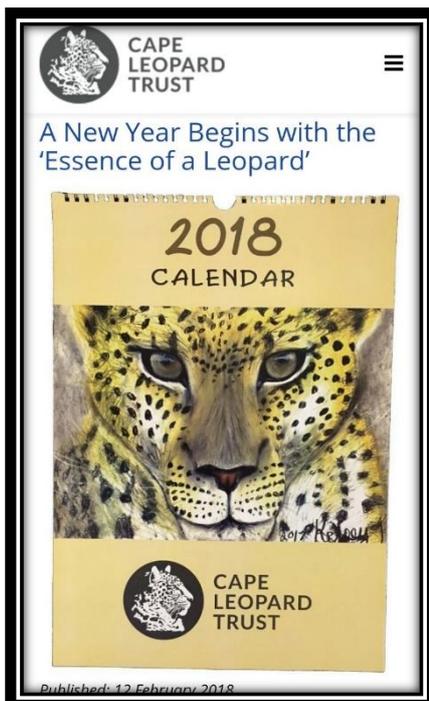
Anyone wanting to view hers and other's pieces is invited to attend an exhibition at Jaguar, Stellenbosch.

All the winning artworks from the 2017 art competition will be on display at the Jaguar / Landrover shop (showroom) in Alexander Road, Stellenbosch from the **1st March to the 9th March**.

Jaguar is one of the Cape Leopard Trust's sponsors and has kindly offered to have the artworks on display in their showroom, as part of their exhibition.

All 14 Artworks will be on display with details about the artist and the piece.

All funds raised from the sale of the artworks will go towards the Cape Leopard Trust's Education Project.



Vacancy:

Grit Lounge assistant needed from the second term. Anyone interested can be in touch with Sandi Bruce at meridianpine@gritproceurement.co.za to hand in an application.



Outreach:

Fruity Friday

Mr Garnet Papier poses with the learners from Trevor Manuel Primary School, which is a no-fee school in Fisantekraal.

Thank you for your first generous donation towards this ongoing outreach project.

Our family extends beyond the Pinehurst fence.

The school will use the fruit as part of their school feeding scheme.

Shavathon:

The Shaveathon raised over R3800 for CANSA



Well done and thank you to all who sacrificed their long hair for this good cause. As the sister of a cancer-survivor, I am very grateful.

Water Saving Measures

As indicated in the letter to Nursery and Aftercare parents last week, we are constantly reviewing our water-saving measures and certainly listen to the 'voice' of parents. Review these tips from the City of Cape Town:

Laundry and dishes	Plumbing fittings and fixtures
Only wash what is absolutely necessary.	Fit flow restrictors on indoor taps to reduce the flow rate to less than 6 litres per minute, as per the City's Water By-law.
Wait for a full load before running washing machines and dishwashers. Some washing machine models let you use final rinse water for the next washing cycle.	Install low-flow showerheads or insert a flow restrictor in the showerhead to reduce flow to a maximum of 10 litres per minute, as per the City's Water By-law.
Hand washing laundry uses less water than many washing machines, especially older models with no eco cycles. Check your machine's usage.	Reduce water pressure to your property by turning your stopcock lower and/or installing a flow restrictor on the main pipe connection from your meter.
Use minimum soap to save on rinse water. Re-use rinse water for the next wash wherever possible.	Find and fix leaks on your property. Leaks are such a waste of our precious water.
Re-use water for flushing toilets as a priority.	

2-in-1 Device Recall

IT Masters, the importers of the Golden Creek 2-in-1 devices sold through Grit have effected a product recall to address an imaging issue which must be rectified at the manufacturer. Their technicians will be on site on Tuesday, 6 March in order to organise the receipt of returned devices and the issuing of loan devices.

On behalf of the Curro and Meridian companies, I would like to apologize for the high levels of frustration this has caused those affected, and assure you that as much as possible will be done to ensure your children's test preparation is not compromised by this. Fortunately there are fewer than 30 such devices on campus.

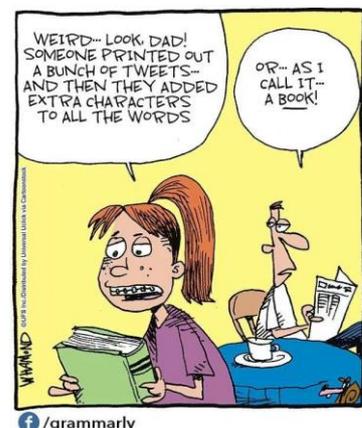
Should your child have ongoing issues with tablets or 2-in-1's please have the device brought to the immediate attention of the tablet champion in your school:

Primary School: carla.c@curro.co.za

High School: elize.c@curro.co.za

Library News

The library is taking shape thanks to the hard work of our handyman, **Mr Japie Swarts**, who made all the shelving for us. We are encouraging all parents and learners to donate books to us for this special space. There is nothing like the empowering moment that a child selects his own book and immerses himself in the magic. Please think of donating a book as part of our Library Birthday Club.



What is your Superhero ability?

Insert your face here!

**Filmmaking?
Singing?
Social Media?
Painting? Writing?
Dancing?**

Insert your face here!

Get all the information from your educator or Head of Culture.

Enter before 9 March to be a Curro Arts Superhero!

To take part in CAS, you have to:

- Be a registered learner at a Curro/Meridian/Academy/Select high school



Contact Mr Jacques Blom for this project and other queries regarding the Tygerberg Eisteddfod also: jacques.b@curro.co.za

Sports News

After an exciting match, our Soccer girls narrowly lost out to Curro Century City. Many of the spectators commented on the quality of the match and congratulated the girls for the way they had played. Well done for giving it your all again! We move on to our next opponents – St Cyprians.

All the Primary School athletes competing at the Curro Top10 event are busy doing their final preparations and we are looking forward to seeing how well they do on Wednesday, 7 March 2018.

As mentioned previously, summer sports concluded last week. A letter detailing the various Winter sports has gone out with the relevant programme – please note that the upcoming week will be slightly different, to accommodate Curro Top10 as well as the various trials that will be happening. See the programme for more details. We are looking forward to an exciting Winter season – with the Curro Regionals being a definite highlight!

Forward note for the Regionals Tournament, we shall provide transport for all learners travelling to the regional sports festival in Hermanus. Please set aside R60 to cover this cost, as we shall have to hire an extra bus/es.



Our soccer girls in action against Elkanah.

SPORT @ MERIDIAN PINEHURST

MONDAY 5 MARCH – FRIDAY 9 MARCH 2018			
	Foundation Phase Gr R - 3:	Intersen Phase Gr 4 - 7:	High School Gr 8 – 12:
Monday 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mini Hockey: U/7 & U/8 @ 13:45 – 14:30 U/9 @ 14:30 – 15:15 ▪ Mini Rugby: U/7 & U/8 @ 13:45 – 14:30 U/9 @ 14:30 – 15:15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Netball: U/10 Trials @ 14:45 – 15:45 ▪ Rugby: U/11 & U/13 @ 14:45 – 15:30 ▪ Soccer: U/10, U/11 & U/13 @ 14:45 – 15:30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Girls Soccer MATCH: St Cyprians (Hellenic FC) @ 15:00 - 17:45 ▪ 7's Rugby: @ 15:00 – 16:00 ▪ Girls Hockey: U/16 & U/19 @ 15:00 – 16:00 ▪ Soccer: U/16 & U/19 @ 15:00 – 16:00
Tuesday 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mini Netball: U/7 & U/8 @ 13:45 – 14:30 U/9 @ 14:30 – 15:15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Boys Hockey: U/12 @ 14:45 – 15:30 ▪ Girls Hockey: U/11 @ 14:45 – 15:30 ▪ Netball: U/11 Trials @ 14:45 – 15:45 ▪ Soccer: U/10 @ 14:45 – 15:30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Boys Hockey: U/19 @ 15:00 – 16:00
Wednesday 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CURRO TOP10 ATHLETICS (CURRO DURBANVILLE) @ 15:30 – 18:00 ▪ Mini Netball: U/7 & U/8 @ 13:45 – 14:30 U/9 @ 14:30 – 15:15 ▪ Mini Rugby: U/7 & U/8 @ 13:45 – 14:30 U/9 @ 14:30 – 15:15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CURRO TOP10 ATHLETICS (CURRO DURBANVILLE) @ 15:30 – 18:00 ▪ Netball: U/12 Trials @ 14:45 – 15:45 ▪ Rugby: U/11 & U/13 @ 14:45 – 15:30 ▪ Soccer: U/11 @ 14:45 – 15:30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 7's Rugby: @ 15:00 – 16:00 ▪ Boys Hockey: U/19 @ 15:00 – 16:00 ▪ Soccer: U/19 @ 15:00 – 16:00
Thursday 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mini Hockey: U/7 & U/8 @ 13:45 – 14:30 U/9 @ 14:30 – 15:15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Boys Hockey: U/12 @ 14:45 – 15:30 ▪ Girls Hockey: U/11 @ 14:45 – 15:30 ▪ Netball: U/13 Trials @ 14:45 – 15:45 ▪ Soccer: U/13 @ 14:45 – 15:30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 7's Rugby: @ 15:00 – 16:00 ▪ Girls Hockey: U/16 & U/19 @ 15:00 – 16:00 ▪ Soccer: U/16 @ 15:00 – 16:00
Friday 9			

Child Safety

Please do not drop your children outside the school gates

before the school opens in the morning. No job is so important that a child's safety can be risked in order to get to it on time. Likewise, we shall not allow children to wait for parents outside the gates in the afternoon, nor may they wait for you at the circle inside the gates. Please collect them at the designated collection points for their phases.

Dates to Diarise

Monday, 5 March: Grade 9 Talent Search Computer Olympiad begins in classes
Your Voice Survey opens

Tuesday, 6 March: Grade 9 Talent Search Computer Olympiad
WCED Systemic Test Awards Ceremony
Return Golden Creek devices and loan tablet distribution

Wednesday, 7 March: Curro Top Ten Athletics at Curro Durbanville
High School Test Series begins
Grade 9 Talent Search Computer Olympiad
New Nursery Parents Info Evening: 19:00 in Nursery – bring your friends to look around.

Thursday, 8 March: Grade 9 Talent Search Computer Olympiad

Friday, 9 March: Grade 9 Talent Search Computer Olympiad

Fruity Friday

CAS Eistedfodd entries close

Saturday, 10 March: **Ms Juliet Otto's** birthday

Monday, 12 March: **Mr Ruan Uys'** birthday



We wish you and your child a peaceful week and strength for the tests up ahead.

Yours in education

Colleen Bentley
Executive Head



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