

Dear Parents/Guardians

Message from the Head

Thank you for the warm welcome my family and I received from you earlier this term. It is always a very big adjustment when relocating, and the Curro Durbanville family made us feel welcome and at home from the very first day.

This year is almost over, and we have reached the end of the 2018 academic year. When reflecting on a short and very busy term, we remember the Prestige Evening and the beautiful Grade 8 information evening for our new wolf cubs of 2019. Our school is very excited to announce that we will have to add another Grade 8 class in 2019 as our numbers have increased so much. This is a true testament to the incredible teaching staff we have. As the young ones make their way to our high school, we also say goodbye to our courageous Matrics of 2018. The November examinations were completed successfully, and we are looking forward to their results.

I wish you all a joyous holiday and festive time. Please drive safely and spend lots of time with your family and friends.

We are looking forward to a brilliant 2019 full of opportunities and success. #Learners2Leaders

STAFF MATTERS

It is with regret but warm wishes that we announce the departure of a few of our staff members. The following staff members will be leaving us at the end of this year:

- **Ms Mariëtte Viljoen** and **Ms Ina Zietsman** both retire after many years as successful teachers in their respective fields. We wish them the very best. Ms Zietsman will still be working on campus in the financial office.
- **Ms Karen Pollard** has been appointed as a subject advisor in Social Sciences by Curro head office. We congratulate her, and we know that she will be very successful in her new capacity.
- **Ms Melani du Plooy** and **Mr Casper Badenhorst** have both accepted positions at other schools and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Appointments 2019

We welcome the following teachers next year:

- **Ms. Joni-Lee Stoop**
Ms Stoop joins the Life Sciences Department. She completed her BSc degree at the University of Cape Town, majoring in Applied Biology, Ecology and Evolution. She completed her Post-Graduate Certificate of Education. She enjoys event coordination and has many years' experience as a first team hockey player. She has completed external training courses and has coached and managed hockey teams at Wynberg Girls' High School. Ms Stoop will be the guardian teacher of the Grade 8E2 class.

- **Ms Lauren Frantz**

Ms Frantz joins the Life Sciences Department. Ms Frantz completed her BSc degree at the University of Stellenbosch, majoring in Human Life Sciences and Psychology. She completed her Post-Graduate Certificate of Education. She loves netball and athletics. She has also completed her Grade 5 UNISA music practical examinations and has received honourable mentions and honours for piano and vocal categories at the Tygerberg International Eisteddfod. She is planning to pursue her studies to a doctoral level. Ms Frantz will be the guardian teacher for the Grade 9E1 class.

- **Mr Christo Pretorius**

Mr Pretorius is currently an Engineering Graphics and Design teacher at Curro Roodeplaat. His IEB results have been excellent. He will join the high school at the beginning of the second term of 2019. Mr Pretorius studied at the University of Pretoria and completed a B Ed Honours Degree in School Management, Law and Policy (2012). Mr Pretorius has also been the head of boys' hockey at Curro Roodeplaat. He coaches hockey, athletics, cricket, rugby and mountain biking. Mr Pretorius will be the guardian teacher for the Grade 11AE5 class.

Mr Rehan Meyer will stand in for Mr Pretorius during Term 1. Mr Meyer is well known in the Engineering Graphics and Design field, with 37 years' teaching experience. He also served as the Deputy Head of Bellville Technical High School.

- **Ms Lowene Christians**

Owing to our increase in learner numbers, a growth post had to be established. Ms Christians joins us from Hermanus High School and will teach Economic and Management Sciences, Business Studies and Accounting. Ms Christians also has a passion for hockey and has coached at under 18 level and managed provincial level teams. She will be the guardian teacher for the Grade 11AE2 class.

- **Mr Jacobus Smit**

Owing to our large Grade 8 learner intake for 2019, Mr Smit (an ex-learner) has been appointed in another growth post. He will be teaching Life Orientation, Technology and Social Sciences. Mr Smit will also coach the under 16 boys' hockey team. He completed a BA Sports Sciences Degree at the University of Stellenbosch where he played hockey. Mr Smit taught abroad for the last couple of years where he gained invaluable experience. He will be the guardian teacher for the Grade 9E3 class.

- **Mr Dieter Voigt**

Mr Voigt has been appointed as an athletics coach and will focus on the track events and cross-country. He is a specialist in the middle distances and has coached many athletes to provincial level. Mr Voigt started his career as a teacher and became a deputy principal before deciding to pursue his love for athletics.

- **Mr Ryno Venter**

Mr Venter is our new head of tennis. He will be joined by two additional coaches whose details will be announced early next year. Mr Venter has extensive tennis experience and has coached at the University of Stellenbosch. He has also been head tennis coach at Curro Sitari. He has a degree in Sports Sciences and a BA Honours in Clinical Psychology.

- **Ms Estelle Snyders (Temporary post)**

Ms Snyders will fill Mrs Karen Pollard's post in Term 1, after which we will make a permanent appointment. Ms Snyders has many years' teaching experience. She is a subject specialist in Geography and languages. She has a Master's Degree in Education.

ACADEMICS

Change in format of the high school academic programme

The format of the high school academic programme will change from 2019. We will now follow a 7-day cycle with 6 periods per day. Changes in the curriculum and the number of assessments required are a huge challenge in any grade. We felt a change in approach was needed. The change in the programme will result in the following:

- *Learners will have to prepare only 6 subjects for the next day instead of 7 subjects.*
- *The school day will start with a guardian period (register period). The academic programme will be in sets of two periods with two breaks.*
- *Teaching time will increase, which will give learners the opportunity to work independently on homework and assignments while teachers facilitate.*
- *The academic programme will not be interrupted by public holidays as we will follow the next academic day in the timetable on the day after the public holiday. It will thus be easier for different classes in the same grade to work at the same pace.*
- *Learners will receive a calendar indicating the academic days for the year.*
- *The duration of the school day will not change:*
 - *Monday to Thursday: 08:00 to 14:30.*
 - *Friday: 08:00 to 13:30.*

In Grade 8 and 9, Natural Sciences consist of Life Sciences and Physical Sciences while Social Sciences consist of History and Geography. In the past, learners did both these sections as separate subjects for the whole year. The curriculum for Natural Sciences and Social Sciences will now be completed in semesters by the Grade 8 and 9 learners. The programme will be as follows:

GRADE 8	NATURAL SCIENCES	SOCIAL SCIENCES
2019 Term 1 and 2	<i>Physical Sciences</i>	<i>Geography</i>
2019 Term 3 and 4	<i>Life Sciences</i>	<i>History</i>

GRADE 9	NATURAL SCIENCES	SOCIAL SCIENCES
2019 Term 1 and 2	<i>Life Sciences</i>	<i>History</i>
2019 Term 3 and 4	<i>Physical Sciences</i>	<i>Geography</i>

All the periods in a 7-day cycle allocated for Natural Sciences, as an example, will now be used for one section of the subject. Learners can, therefore, focus on only the specific topics of that section of the subject. Economic and Management Sciences (including Accounting, Business Studies and Economics) will not be semesterised but will be offered as one subject by one educator per class. We trust the change in the programme will bring an even more focused academic atmosphere to the school.

Bursaries

Academic bursaries will be awarded to Grade 4 to 12 learners, based on the December promotion marks. The bursaries are awarded as follows:

- **1st place** = 20% discount
- **2nd place** = 15% discount
- **3rd place** = 10% discount

Textbooks and Stationery 2019

Learners will again use e-books as well as a few printed books in 2019. Parents received all the information regarding textbooks and stationery for 2019 in October. The information is also available under **Information** on the Curro Durbanville website. It also includes the e-books to be used in 2019. Please ensure that your child has all the necessary textbooks and stationery available at the beginning of the new school year. Please contact Ms Elsa Boshoff if you have any enquiries (elsa.b@curroholdings.co.za).

National Senior Certificate Results

Results will be announced at the school on Thursday, 3 January. Grade 12 learners and their parents are welcome to collect the results from the school on this day. Testimonials will also be handed out. We will start punctually at 09:30.

Grade Heads

The Grade Heads for 2019 are as follows:

- **Grade 8:** Ms Lize-Meri Amann
- **Grade 9:** Ms Frances Uys
- **Grade 10:** Mr Janes Benadé
- **Grade 11:** Ms Martenette Strauss
- **Grade 12:** Ms Lucinda Jansen

Please contact them should you have any important information the school must be made aware of.

2019 Curro School Terms

- Term 1: 9 January – 15 March
- Term 2: 2 April – 14 June
- Term 3: 9 July – 20 September
- Term 4: 8 October – 4 December

SPORT

Athletics

We hosted our first ever afternoon/evening inter-house athletics meeting on 26 October at Dal Josaphat Stadium in Paarl. The athletes appreciated the cooler conditions which contributed to many exceptional performances and fewer injuries. The selected athletes now have a few weeks of personal time to train on their own before participating in the *Norman Hauser Athletics Meeting* at Bellville High School in the new year as well as the annual Curro interschools athletics meeting on 13 February 2019.

GENERAL

Annual Report

The annual report is a summary of all the events and highlights of 2018. A copy will shortly be available on the Curro website (<https://www.curro.co.za/western-cape/curro-durbanville/annual-report/>).

School times for 2019

School starts at 08:00 on Wednesday, 9 January 2019. Please keep in mind that traffic is usually very heavy on the first day of school.

Bus transport

Learners who make use of bus transport must note that the service will commence on **Wednesday, 9 January 2019**. Please remember that learners need to register for the bus service annually. The available seats are limited. The following bus routes are available:

- ***N1 City pick-up points:***
N1 City McDonalds, Platteklouf Spar, Welgemoed Engen, Van Riebeeckshof Spar, Tyger Valley Shopping Centre opposite Mugg & Bean entrance.
- ***Mitchells pick-up points:***
Colorado Convenience Store, Kuils River McDonalds, Engen Garage Protea Heights.
- ***Malmesbury pick-up points:***
Malmesbury McDonalds, Malmesbury Spar, R304 Malmesbury Farms (Aberfeldy Farm), Uitzicht Spar.

Please contact Ms Carine Cornelius (carine.c@curro.co.za) for registration forms or any further information.

School Diary 2019

Learners are welcome to purchase their own school diaries for 2019.

2-in-1 devices

All Grade 8 to 12 learners must bring their devices (marked and charged) to school from the start of the first term. Using a proper cover will be to the learners' benefit. During the first few school days, teachers will assist learners in loading the e-textbooks to their devices. The educators will provide those learners with the work, should they still be waiting for pre-ordered devices to be delivered. A friendly reminder that **only** Windows-based 2-in-1 devices (or laptops) will be supported from 2019. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Rohan Smit (rohan.s@curro.co.za) for more information or assistance.

Clothing store (Lounge)

Operating hours during the school term:

- Monday: 12:00 – 17:00
- Tuesday: 07:30 – 09:00 and 12:00 – 17:30
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 17:00
- Thursday: 07:30 – 09:00 and 12:00 – 17:30

The Lounge will close on **13 December 2018** and re-open on **3 January 2019**.

- **Lounge email address:** durbanville@gritprocurement.co.za
- **Contact number (Lounge hours only):** 072 547 9956
- **Call Centre number:** 012 741 3460
- **Call Centre email:** queries@gritprocurement.co.za
- **MyHub username/password problems:** 087 285 1699 / 087 285 2071

IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY 2019

3	Grade 12 (2018): Results function
5 – 7	Pretoria Boys High School Cricket Tournament: under 14 and under 15
8 – 11	Grade 8: Orientation
9	School re-opens
10 – 11	Grade 8 and new learners: Athletics grading
14	Assembly: Top 10
16 – 18	Grade Camps
19	Currage Concert
21	Assembly: Grade 8 Blazer Ceremony and Class leaders
23	Grade 8 – 12: Parent evening
24	Swimming gala (home)
25	Norman Hauser Athletics Meeting

Message from the Executive Head

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our staff for their excellent and dedicated work during the past year. We were once again privileged to teach wonderful learners. Thank you to every learner for your loyalty, dedication and beautiful behaviour. We love you all.

Thank you to the parents for your continuous support and for creating environments at home that are conducive to learning. It makes our task so much easier.

I would like to wish every member of our Curro family a blessed and joyful Christmas. May you enjoy a lovely time of rest with your loved ones. In 2019 we will again work together as a team to make it an even more successful year.

Kind regards



Mr R Smit

Head: Administration, Communication and E-learning



Mr R Stroebel

Head: High School



Mr DD van Zyl
Executive Head