

Date:
5 March 2019

Issue no.
Issue 2



CURRO
Thatchfield

High School
NEWS LETTER

Dear Curro Parents/Guardians

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1. FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE HEAD

We were out of the starting blocks in no time and now the race is on! I trust that all learners and parents/guardians are well settled in and feel part of the Curro family.

By now you are probably aware that the high school and primary school are functioning as separate entities. From now on I will focus exclusively on the high school and, in doing so, my management team and I will transform the high school into a learning institution of note.

Our learners are already practising hard on the sports field and the cultural activities have also started. I want to invite all learners to participate in at least one activity. We advocate mass participation as this promotes a sense of belonging in the school community.

The high school invited the **Grades 6 and 7 learners** to experience a morning at our school on Wednesday, 6 March 2019. In addition, we also invite our Grades 6 and 7 parents to **an information evening on Tuesday, 12 March 2019** where we will present to them why it is important for their child to make the transition from primary school to high school as smoothly as possible.

Both our country and our parents are facing **challenging financial times**. I would like to urge you to please make every effort to keep up to date with the paying of school fees. It becomes difficult to catch up once you have defaulted on one month's school fees. Parents, should your financial position change, please come and discuss this with me.

As previously communicated, let us resolve to **compliment teachers** more – through a pat on the back, a handshake or a card – and express our appreciation for the important service they provide. Please continue to share your positive experiences with us by emailing us at compliments.thatchfield@curro.co.za.

Mrs Marlene Gerber





2. FROM THE DESK OF THE HEAD OF HIGH SCHOOL

As we wind down to the end of a very long term, we can look back with pride at all our achievements. We started things a bit differently with the grade 8 induction program held at school for the first week. This initiative has turned out to be a huge success as our grade 8's seem to be much more in tune with the requirements of high school.

Our learners are also busy on the sports field with many of them taking part in pre-season practice and league matches this includes Netball, Hockey, Soccer, Rugby and Cricket. What has impressed me is the growth in the number of teams we can select to take part in the coming leagues. I'm sure the results of their participation will be as impressive.

We have just finished the first round of workshops involving elevate education. By all accounts the workshops on learning techniques was a resounding success. Learners were asked to give some feedback regarding the workshops, 99% of respondents in the survey agreed that it was worth their while and will recommend the workshop to other learners.

It would also be remiss of me not to mention the silent heroes of our school - our teachers. I would like to thank each one of them for the time they spend on and with our kids, many times to the detriment of their own.

Also, our parents need to be thanked for their continued support.

Please enjoy every moment of the upcoming holidays with your child. They grow up so quickly...

Mr Danie van Schalkwyk

3. PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

The high school has now had the good fortune to be a school on its own. As part of this we will also be establishing our own Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). Parents are urged to contact Mrs. Gerber should you want to become part of this important function within school life. It is also part of their duty to make sure that healthy relationships prevail amongst all stakeholders and to organise activities that will promote involvement of other parents and community members.

We would like to hear from you and are awaiting your suggestions, complaints, new ideas or compliments. In doing so we can build positive relationships, strengthen our community and take Curro Thatchfield High School to greater heights.

4. DATES TO DIARISE

Please take note of the following important dates for the rest of the term as well as for Term 2:

| Date | Activity |
|----------------|--|
| Wed, 6 March | Grade 6 and 7 learners attend high school for Open Day |
| Thurs, 7 March | End of term spirit evening |



| | |
|----------------|--|
| Tues, 12 March | Grade 6 and 7 parents and learners invited for information evening |
| Fri, 15 March | School closes |
| Tues, 2 April | School re-opens |
| Sat, 6 April | Open day |
| Sat, 13 April | Parents' morning |
| Fri, 26 April | Inter house winter sport |
| Fri, 26 April | Matric farewell function |
| Thurs, 2 May | Grade 12 Afrikaans production |
| Wed, 8 May | School Holiday (National Voting) |
| Thurs, 9 May | Blood drive |
| Fri, 10 May | Careers day |
| Sat, 11 May | Car show |
| Wed, 15 May | Exams start |
| Fri, 14 June | School closes |

5. GENERAL

Staff Matters

Mrs van Schalkwyk has undergone back surgery and her classes will be taught by me until such time that she returns to school.

As part of our in-house development programme, our bus drivers have completed and passed an advanced driving course that was presented by Future Coaches. We are very proud of them. Please congratulate them when you see them.

Miss Boucher will tie the knot during the school holidays and when she returns we will welcome Mrs. Schnidt to the staff. Congratulations!

Tablets and textbooks

In order for your child to make the best of his/her academic year, it is of utmost importance that you purchase the required textbooks. This year you had the option to either purchase hard copy books or e-books. There is still a vast number of learners who do not have textbooks. I urge you to get the necessary resources as soon as possible. Learners have already started with cycle tests and I am concerned about how learners can prepare properly without resources.



Reports published electronically

We would like to remind you that reports will be published electronically for the first time at the end of term 1. You can go onto the MyHub website to view the reports. Reports will be available from 11:00 on Friday, 15 March 2019. Kindly note that no hard copies of reports will be issued by the school.

In our ongoing efforts to enhance the security protocols for the school, the control of entrance to the school will be stepped up. We urge you to display access stickers on the driver's side of the windscreen of all vehicles. Security guards on duty are responsible for the monitoring of vehicles and we ask that you please respect and assist them in their efforts to control access to the school. Parents who have not received a security sticker must please report to the reception area. Once identified as a parent/guardian, a sticker will be issued. Learner safety is a priority but without your cooperation and compliance, we will not be able to implement our security measures successfully.

Access to school premises

Learners on premises after hours

The number of learners loitering on school premises after school hours is of great concern. Aside from the obvious safety concerns, learners are wasting valuable time that could be spent on homework preparing for a test. We urgently need your support in this regard by ensuring that you check up on your children's whereabouts after school.

Parents' morning on Saturday, 13 April

As we will be hosting our open day on Saturday, 6 April 2019 we have had to postpone our termly parent morning to the second Saturday of term 2 (13 April 2019). Please note that there will be a general meeting in the hall first, followed by parents' visits to the subject teachers. All parents are invited to attend.

As you may have noticed, building of the staffroom and sports changing rooms have started next to block O2. Please be patient with us regarding morning traffic during this time. The benefit is sure to outweigh the discomfort!

Construction at school



General appearance of learners

While it is heart-warming to see that most of our learners look so proud and neat in their uniforms, there are still some learners who do not adhere to uniform regulations. Learners are not allowed to wear tracksuit tops and rain jackets instead of blazers. Learners are not allowed to wear multi-coloured socks to school. Boys' hair has to be neat and tidy at all times and girls' hair need to be tied up and not obstruct their faces. Girls with shoulder-length braids need to tie their hair in a pony. Where reasonable, clothing and accessories that are not allowed will be confiscated, e.g. jewellery.

Planet Fitness partnership

It is with great excitement that we can announce a relationship with Planet Fitness at Mall@55. The benefits to our school are very lucrative. Learners will be able to join for a period of 12 months at R199 per member. We hope many of our learners will take up this offer. There is also a special offer for parents who want to join. More details to follow soon.

It has become really disturbing to hear of all the drug-related incidences in and around our community. We are not naïve to believe that this is not prevalent in our school as well. We have therefore contacted the local SAPS specialist's unit for schools; not only to come and talk to our learners, but also to do random searches amongst our learners. The school will also perform drug tests when and where a reasonable suspicion justifies this action. We will rely heavily on your support in this endeavour.

Drug-related challenges

Holiday classes for Grade 12s

Matrics will, once again, be busy with holiday classes during the April holidays. A big thank you to our teachers who are prepared to give up their resting time and help prepare our matrics for the examination at the end of the year.

Timetable changes for term 2

The timetable and daily times will change for term 2 since we will not be writing formal tests and, as a result, the test periods fall away. We will ensure that it has as little impact on teachers and classes as possible. The June examination will be the formal part of testing for the term. This is being done to maximise the available teaching time during the term.

By visiting our Curro Thatchfield Facebook page regularly, you will stay up to date with all the activities that are taking place at our school. Interesting articles and photos are posted regularly and you will be amazed to see how busy we are!

Please don't forget to 'like' our posts.

<https://www.facebook.com/CurroThatchfield/>

Facebook page



6. IN CONCLUSION

I recently came across a quote from Agatha Christie:

'I suppose it is because nearly all children go to school nowadays and have things arranged for them that they seem so forlornly unable to produce their own ideas.'

This is when I say thank you to Curro schools where **creative thinking** is only one of the 6 Cs that we implement in our daily teaching. The meaning of the other five Cs will be communicated as our high school news is sent out. Until then, I'll keep you in suspense ...

Kind regards,

M. Gerber

MRS MARLENE GERBER
EXECUTIVE HEAD

D. van Schalkwyk

MR DANIE VAN SCHALKWYK
HEAD OF HIGH SCHOOL



General Information - CTF

Address

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P O Box 401
Celtis Ridge
0130

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www.curro.co.za

GPS Coordinates:

S 25° 54' 05.8". E 028° 06' 26.7"

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Accounts

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Intern School Psychologists

P/S: Aadil.n@curro.co.za

H/S: Natalie.p2@curro.co.za

Curro Banking Details

Name of Acc: Curro Thatchfield

Bank: FNB

Acc No: 623 5878 0403

Branch Code: 250-655

Reference: Family Code

Please note that school fees are due in advance on the 2nd of every month for 12 months (e.g. July school fees are payable on 2nd July)

NB: A R150 payment allocation fine will be added to all accounts that do not use the family code as reference when making an EFT payment

Outside Providers

Grit Uniform Lounge

thatchfield@grit.co.za

Located in the High School Admin Office

Mon to Thurs: 07:30-09:00 and 12:30-16:00

Fri: 07:30-09:00

Afro School Books

ldreyer@afroschool.co.za or 011 708 6334

Educational Support Team

Educational Psychologist

Elmarie Moss-Dormehl on 082 920 4929

Occupational Therapist

Karen Liebenberg on 083 651 0876

Speech Therapist

Liesl Turner on 072 124 7646

Lieslturner@vodamail.co.za

Play Therapist

Anita Potgieter on 084 632 1313

anita.l.potgieter@gmail.com

If you think your child might suffer from depression contact

South African Depression and Anxiety Group (SADAG) 08:00 to 20:00

0800 567 567 or 0800 205 026 or 0800 708 090 and 0800 121 314 or

sms 31393 and they will call you back

Urban Life Church Services on Sundays in the Primary School Hall @ 10:00

danie@urbanlife.org.za

www.urbanlife.org.za

3C Ministries on Sundays in the High School Hall @ 08:00

