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18

**CURRO**  
Aurora

# NEWS LETTER

## NOT TO BE MISSED – STEAMD 2019

The annual Curro Robotics and STEAMD (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics, and Design) event will take place on **12 June 2019** at Curro Aurora. During the STEAMD event, our learners and educators will have the opportunity to show what they achieved in the different subjects.

science | technology | engineering | arts | mathematics | design

Join us for a fun-filled day and experience the future-focused learning taking place at our school.

**Date:** Wednesday, 12 June 2019  
**Time:** 11:00 – 16:30  
**Venue:** Curro Aurora school hall

Prepare to be amazed!

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We started with Project-Based Learning in 2018, and this is an opportunity for our learners to present their best projects to other Curro Schools, learners, educators, and parents.

### Programme:

Time	Activity
11:00	Opening
11:00-11:15	Registration of Robotic Teams
11:00-11:30	FLLJr Set Up
11:15-11:30	Introduction to Robotics Competition and Rules
11:30-13:00	Judging of FFLJr
11:30-15:00	Presentation and Judging of PBL's Writing and Art Competitions
11:30-16:30	Displaying of Subject Entries
11:30-13:00	1 <sup>st</sup> Session of Robotics Competition
13:00-13:45	Light Lunch
13:45-14:45	Drone Competition
14:00-14:30	FLLJr Certificate Ceremony
14:00-15:30	2 <sup>nd</sup> Session of Robotics Competition
14:00-15:40	Science Show Rubiks Cube Dash Gaming Virutal Reality 3D Printing Laser Cutting
15:40-16:00	Certificate Ceremony
16:20-16:30	Robotics Finals

Please visit us on 12 June to see our learners in action.



## Communication

I am including the contact details of the School Management Team and Grade Heads herewith as per my previous newsletter for easy reference:

Head of High School	Dion Kotze	<a href="mailto:Dion.K@curro.co.za">Dion.K@curro.co.za</a>
FET Phase Head	Sarah-Jane Olivier	<a href="mailto:Sarah-Jane.O01@curro.co.za">Sarah-Jane.O01@curro.co.za</a>
Snr Phase Head	Donne Valkenburg	<a href="mailto:Donne.V1@curro.co.za">Donne.V1@curro.co.za</a>
Head of Sport	Adrian Ferreira	<a href="mailto:Adrian.F@curroholdings.co.za">Adrian.F@curroholdings.co.za</a>
Head of Culture	Saskia Snyders	<a href="mailto:Saskia.S@curro.co.za">Saskia.S@curro.co.za</a>
Grade 12 Head	Anita Bornman	<a href="mailto:Anita.B@curro.co.za">Anita.B@curro.co.za</a>
Grade 11 Head	Nicole Webb	<a href="mailto:Nicole.W2@curro.co.za">Nicole.W2@curro.co.za</a>
Grade 10 Head	Judy Beeston	<a href="mailto:Judy.B@curroholdings.co.za">Judy.B@curroholdings.co.za</a>
Grade 9 Head	Janine Tobin	<a href="mailto:Janine.T@curro.co.za">Janine.T@curro.co.za</a>
Grade 8 Heads	Kelsey Gallon & Gerard Appelman	<a href="mailto:Kelsey.G2@curro.co.za">Kelsey.G2@curro.co.za</a> <a href="mailto:Gerard.A@curroholdings.co.za">Gerard.A@curroholdings.co.za</a>

Please note that e-mails cannot always be read or answered immediately as all members of the School Management Team and Grade Heads have a teaching responsibility too. We do try our best to answer as quickly as possible.

## Staff matters

Congratulations to Miss Magdi van den Berg on her upcoming wedding to Mr Franco du Preez on 22 June. Be assured of our best wishes on this wonderful journey as you build your new lives together. May the years ahead be filled with lasting joy!

## Exams

In most disciplines, there are specific bodies of knowledge that students are expected to learn. Physics students might learn about thermodynamics, while history students might learn about the Cold War. Exams enable us to accurately test students' breadth of understanding of these topics.

Studying is like exercising. When one exercises, the muscles in use grow stronger. Likewise, the process of searching through one's memory and retrieving the relevant information strengthens that memory pathway for future uses. Exams don't just provide a targeted, fit-for-purpose opportunity for students to demonstrate what they know: they also have the power to enhance what students know.

A reminder that the mid-year exams form up to 50% of the year mark which is combined with the Final Exams to calculate promotional marks. We are experiencing an increase in absenteeism due to colds and flu. A gentle reminder that should an assessment be missed, a doctor's note is required to avoid a 0% mark.

**Preliminary exams for Grade 12 start on 23 August.**



## EXAM SURVIVAL TIPS:

Monday sees the start of the last week of exams – it is vital that you stay focused. Herewith some more exam survival tips I thought might come in handy.

### 1. Stay organised:

If you're not the most organised of people, it's a great time to start. Try to store all your notes in a single place (whether it's in a folder or on your computer), keep track of dates (including revision days or extra classes) and consider your study space. Is it quiet, tidy and free from distractions? Also think about putting together a schedule to plan out your study sessions. This is especially helpful if you're studying for multiple exams.

### 2. Change up your study routine:

Don't rely on your textbook and notes taken in class as your sole study resources. Look for study apps that can help you stay organised and motivated, and consider alternative revision strategies. Think about putting posters up around the house (a vocab list, quotes for essays or mind maps explaining key concepts), creating your own flashcards or completing practice exams.

### 3. Work on your exam technique:

As you complete your final assessments or try out practice exams at home, start working on your exam technique. If you are assigned reading time, use it carefully. Start by reading questions slowly and highlighting key words, and don't start writing until you've read each question in full — it's all too easy to get carried away and miss a key instruction, such as providing a definition but not the required example. Try answering the hardest questions first, while your mind is fresh, and allow yourself to complete the easier ones later.

If you have extra time at the end of the test or exam, resist twiddling your thumbs. Instead, make an effort to read over your answers to make sure you've answered everything correctly and provided sufficient detail – look at the mark allocation and make sure you answered what the question asked.

### 4. Ask for help:

If you've had trouble understanding a topic or need extra help before exams, make time to see your teacher or tutor. Don't feel bad asking for help — your teachers are there to support you. They'll be able to provide academic assistance and point you in the right direction on problem areas. Looking over old assessments can help too, as this will show you which areas you need to work on.

### 5. Aim for a healthy balance:

If caffeine and sugary foods are your go-to during exam periods, opt for healthier snacks like fresh fruit or unsalted popcorn. Also remember to stay active — even a quick walk around the block will help you feel refreshed and ready to tackle another study session or exam. The same goes for catching up with friends. If you have a part-time job, it's not a bad idea to cut back your hours.



Source: <https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/education-blogs/student-life/top-five-exam-survival-tips>, accessed June 2019.

## PASS CRITERIA - FET and Senior Phase

### FET Phase (Grade 10, 11 and 12)

#### Minimum requirements for Bachelor's Degree Studies

English 40% or more

4 subjects 50% or more (May include English but excludes Life Orientation)

2 subjects 30% or more

#### Minimum requirements for Diploma Studies

English 40% or more

3 other subjects 40% or more (excludes English and Life Orientation)

2 other subjects 30% or more (includes Life Orientation)

#### Minimum requirements for Higher Certificate Studies

English 40%

2 other learning areas 40%

3 other learning areas 30%

Students may fail 1 subject under 30%

### Senior Phase (Grade 8 and 9) minimum requirements to pass:

English 50 %

Afrikaans / isiZulu 40 %

Mathematics 40 %

3 other learning areas 40 %

2 other learning areas 30 %

## Grade 12 Winter School Programme 1 to 5 July

The Winter School Programme runs from 1 to 5 July at school. Various subjects are involved, including English; Afrikaans; Mathematics; Mathematical Literacy; Economics; Accounting; CAT; IT; History; Geography; Life Sciences; Physical Sciences and Consumer Studies.

This programme forms part of our teaching planning and we would therefore like to see all our Matrics attend. The Winter School is offered at no cost to our learners and they may attend in civvies.

## Curro Aurora 2nd Hand Clothing Store

Please note that the contract of the current store operator came to an end at the end of May 2019. A new operator will be appointed after completion of the tender process.

Tender process details will be available soon.



## RAFFLE

My weekly reminder about our raffle books that were distributed to the students for our Annual Fundraising Raffle.

Sadly, the High School is seriously behind the Primary School and Pre-School in selling their raffle tickets.

There are amazing prizes to be won!

These are not just for the participants in the raffle but also for the pupil who sells the most tickets, the class that sells the most tickets and the first class to return all their books sold.

Please support us in our endeavour to sell as many tickets as possible as these funds are set aside for the printing of the Annual Yearbook.

Please know that High School learners are gaining the same benefit from the income of these tickets and therefore it is only fair that they do their fair share in selling their raffle tickets.

We have launched a CIVVIES day initiative to motivate High School learners to participate in this initiative.

Please support them in this.

We will continue with our raffle ticket drive during the third term – another civvies day reward is just around the corner – every learner who sold a total of at least six tickets will be allowed to wear civvies in the next round of rewards.

## Culture

*Mrs Saskia Snyders*

The National Eisteddfod of South Africa® is calling for entries for the 2019 National Eisteddfod season. This event provides a platform for young performers in all communities to participate and showcase their talents in classical and contemporary music, various dance styles, speech and drama, theatre (including work in all official South African languages) and fine arts.

**RAFFLE**

Stand a chance to win 1 of 3 prizes.  
Support our APT and buy your raffle ticket now!

Closing date for purchasing tickets:  
Monday, 15 July 2019

Draw date:  
Saturday, 3 August 2019

**You have to be in it to win it!**

**R20 per entry**

First prize GIFT VOUCHER VALUE R20 000

Second prize GIFT VOUCHER VALUE R15 000

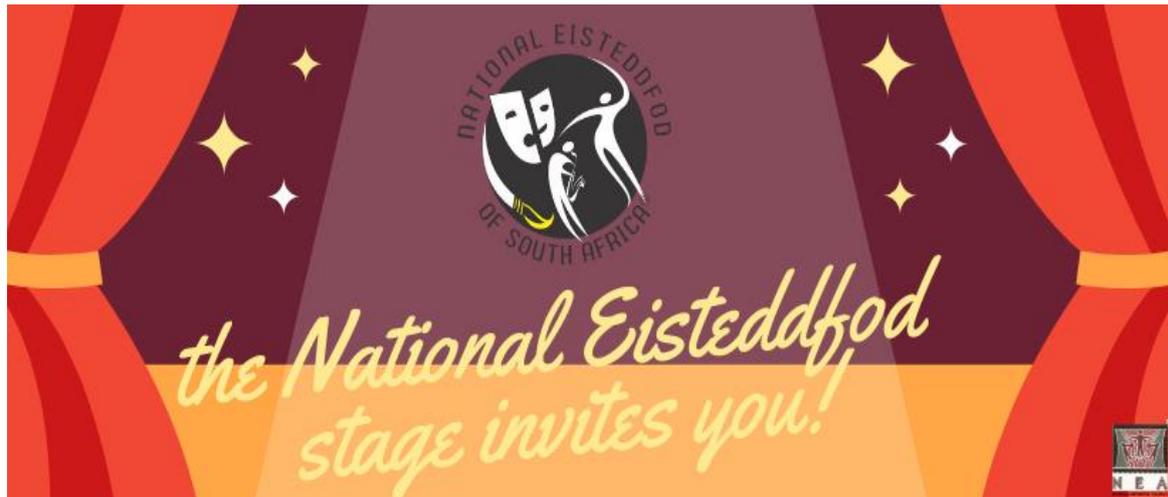
Third prize GIFT VOUCHER VALUE R10 000

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The NEA's awareness and understanding of the **magic of the arts** defines the unique character and style of the National Eisteddfod of South Africa®, putting it in a class of its own, apart from similar events. This **magic** causes wonderful things to happen in the mind of any participant in the arts and is the key to developing self-confidence, appreciating your own worth as a human being and taking a stand in this world!



The closing dates for entries:

### Live performances:

- For those who would like to save by submitting entries ONLINE, the closing date for entries is **30 June 2019**.

### Recorded performances:

- Video recorded entries: **20 September 2019**

### House Plays

We are getting ready for House Play season. If there are any Grade 10 or 11 learners interested in directing a House Play this year, please collect entry forms from Mrs Snyders before the end of term.

### ATKV Redenaars Final

Four Curro Aurora learners were placed in the **Top 10** during the semi-final of the ATKV National Redenaars Competition (First Additional Language). Well done to Chloe Diedericks-Boudouris (Grade 7), Jada Reddy (Grade 8), Karla Lotz (Grade 5) and Isabella Plange (Grade 6).

**This is a fantastic achievement!**



Good luck to Jada (**placed 2nd in Grade 8**) who will fly to Cape Town (Goudini) to take part in the national competition in August.



L to R: Mr JC Engelbrecht, Jada Reddy, Ms Rialda Jansen Van Rensburg

## Sport

*Mr Adrian Ferreira*

### Curro Nationals:

Curro Nationals will take place from Thursday, 13 June to Saturday, 15 June. This event will be hosted by Waterstone College. The tournament includes the various regional 1st team winners. The tournament begins on Thursday afternoon.

The Thursday exams won't be affected because they will finish by 13:00, allowing the students time to play in the afternoon.

We are aware that some students are writing on Friday and we will try to accommodate by starting their exams earlier (seated by 7:00), so that they don't miss too much of the tournament.

The following Curro Aurora 1st teams will be participating:

- Netball
- Rugby
- Boys' hockey
- Boys' soccer
- Girls' soccer



## Rugby:

The Warriors League quarter and semi-finals took place on Saturday, 01 June at Trinityhouse Little Falls.

### Results:

1st:

Curro Aurora (10) vs. Maragon Ruimsig (24) (quarter-final)

Curro Aurora (26) vs. The King's College (19) (play-off)

u/16:

Curro Aurora (0) vs Maragon Ruimsig (21) (semi-final)

u/15:

Curro Aurora (12) vs. Trinityhouse Little Falls 'B' (7) (quarter-final)

Curro Aurora (21) vs. Curro Helderwyk (0) (semi-final)

The finals take place on Saturday, 08 June at Trinityhouse Little Falls.

The teams are playing for the following places:

1st: 5th/6th place vs at Trinityhouse Little Falls @09:20

u/16: 3rd/4th place vs The King's College @09:00

u/15: 1st/2nd place vs Curro Krugersdorp @10:40

## Equestrian:

The Sanesa Qualifier 4 takes place at Maple Ridge Equestrian Farm on Saturday, 08 and Sunday, 09 June.

## Golf:

Kim Turgut represented Gauteng Ladies at the South Africa Women's 72-Hole Teams Championship. The tournament was held at Mauccauvlei Golf Club from Monday, 03 to Wednesday, 05 June. Her team, Gauteng C, finished tie-7th in the Swiss Team Trophy. Individually she finished 20th and 11th in the Junior Division.



## Supporter's Card

Term 3 will see the implementation of a supporter's card for all our learners. We look forward to seeing our learners actively involved in supporting various sporting and cultural events.



## Curro Aurora Heads for the Roads: Comrades 2019



PHOTO: L-R: Mr Baffuor Ababio (Parent), Mr Shawn Thomson (Curro Operational Business Manager), Mr Christiaan Maree (Head of Primary School), Mr Eugene Smith (Parent), Ms Nicole Webb (Grade 11 Grade Head)

The Comrades Marathon is an event where everyone is equal and ordinary at the starting line... but a legend is born at the finish!

The Comrades Marathon, race will be run on Sunday, 9 June 2019 starting at 05:30 and finishing at 17:30. The race is run from 'gun to gun'. It is an "UP RUN" starting at the City Hall in Durban and finishing at the Scottsville Racecourse in Pietermaritzburg.

The race distance is approximately 87km.

Curro Aurora wishes our parents and staff all the best as they take to the roads this weekend.

## Upcoming Events

**Teddy Bear Cross-country Run**

**HOT 91.9 FM** In partnership with Hot 91.9FM, we are hosting a teddy bear cross-country run.

Bring your water bottle, sunblock, spirit and most importantly, a teddy! All donated teddies will be handed to underprivileged kids in and around our community.

Date: Monday, 10 June 2019  
 Starting time: 09:00  
 Venue: Curro Aurora, Galaxy Field  
 Entry fee: Donate a teddy (used or new)  
 Dress code for learners: House T-shirt, PE shorts, school caps and takkies

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**Visitors' Evening**

Come and find out what we are all about.

**Date:** Tuesday, 9 July 2019  
**Times:** Please book a time slot:  
 17:30 – 18:00 or  
 19:00 – 20:00  
**Venue:** Taurus Road, Sundowner

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## Thought to ponder:

“Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.”

- *Marian Wright Edelman*

Yours in education,

Dion Kotze  
Head of High School.