

Date: 11 September 2020

Issue no.: 27

Dear Parent / Learner

The arrival of spring brings more daylight, so we can enjoy the energy that is no longer needed to fight off drowsiness. The increased light also triggers the release of serotonin, a brain chemical that helps us to feel happier.

If, like me, you've been tucking into comfort food like stews and stodgy puddings and a strict routine of breakfast, early lunch, lunch, late lunch, supper and evening snacks all through winter and lockdown, then Spring is the perfect time to get into the groove of regular exercise. Setting yourself a routine, whether it's to go running, swimming or just to do some basic exercises or go the gym, will have you feeling amazing sooner than you think.



There's no doubt about it, enjoying a fresher, lighter diet is one of the very best ways to feel healthier and improve your mood - the simple philosophy to follow is "eat right, feel amazing". As the weather gets warmer, it's essential to drink more water too - especially as there are many benefits to staying properly hydrated. So, put down that coffee/tea mug and pour yourself a glass of water (note to self).

We all had to closet ourselves away during the lockdown months, binge-watching box sets and procrastinate doing all those DIY tasks we promised we would do when we had time. Our extended periods of isolation caused a disconnect with friends and family. Reconnecting with friends and family (in a safe way) will not only improve how you feel, but you'll be helping them to feel good too. In the age of Zoom, Teams, WeChat, Skype etc., there is simply no excuse not to contact "old friends". They (like you) may need it more than you can imagine.

The upcoming Spring break is the perfect way to enjoy a change of scenery as well as being an invaluable chance to relax, destress and experience something new, whether you are going away or staying at home. Any break is going to help you feel amazing and recharge your batteries before a very long final school term.

Warmer weather, warmer hearts – the term's end is in sight!

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

All Curro schools will adhere to the term dates which Executive Heads announced recently:

Grades R to 12						
Term 2	Days	Term 3	Days	Term 4	Days	Total days
1 April – 31 May (ONLINE ONLY)	(40)	6 July – 23 Sep	57	5 Oct – 9 Dec	50	126
1 June – 26 June (BLENDED APPROACH)	19	(BLENDED APPROACH)				(166)

The last day of school is scheduled for 9 December at this stage, but some learners will finish a bit earlier, depending on the examination timetable which we will compile shortly.

Our **online schooling will continue** in terms of our commitment that no child is left behind:

- Our goal is to include all our learners and families, and any special provisions necessary will be made to ensure a continuation of learning for all the children under our care;
- We will continue uploading work for those still in lockdown to ensure that no work is missed by the learners during this time;
- We ask all learners to commit to their studies to ensure that they keep up to date with their curriculum and assignments as much as possible until such time as their grades are able to return to the classroom.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

Matrics: School uniform is to be worn on Mondays and Fridays, allowing enough time to have the uniform cleaned. Grade 11s are to wear uniform on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Should you (the learner) have PE on a Monday or a Friday, please wear your full school tracksuit with blue pride T-shirt. We ask that learners are dressed neatly for school please

As all Grade 8 to 10 learners will only be on campus every other day, learners are required to wear school uniform.

Please also note that **normal hair and nail regulations** still apply– let's look neat and tidy, ready for school.

## FROM THE “DRAMATIC ARTS” DESK / STAGE

*Mrs Saskia Snyders*



The late great Sir Ken Robinson, a global leader in creative and cultural education, said, “Creativity is as important now in education as literacy and we should treat it with the same status.” By utilizing the power of the arts, we can teach our learners about collaboration, respect, compassion, self-awareness, empathy, and lateral thinking.

The global pandemic of 2020 has had a vast and lasting impact on society, with some of the effects still not fully materialised. We hear about communities experiencing collective trauma and the associated side effects; we see families and businesses overwhelmed with new challenges, including financial strain and uncertainty.

It is in Dramatic Arts where learners can find a safe space to explore, discuss and express their emotions regarding their personal experiences and the experiences of their communities. It is in the sharing of stories and the creating of stories, that they can create perspective and, possibly, create change and have a positive impact on their communities.

Exercising and training the creative muscles is an ongoing process, including reading plays, analysing socio-political contexts, interpreting characters, creating characters, workshoping plays, rehearsing, and performing monologues, and being able to review their own creative work critically. For theory this term, the Grade 10s have delved into the vibrant world of Sophiatown, South African Workshop Theatre and Township Musicals.

We also spent time looking at cultural practices which make people unique and the indigenous knowledge systems associated with the various practices and cultures. The Grade 11s have been forced to ask life’s unanswerable questions, like “What is the meaning of life?” while we researched and explored the 20th Century and the theatre movements that tried to find meaning in a century ripped apart by war, greed and technological advancements. Some of the movements include Existentialism, Expressionism, Epic Theatre, and the Theatre of the Absurd.



The Grade 12s have worked incredibly hard to complete their portfolio work for 2020. They have studied South African history and saw how it can be portrayed through theatre by iconic theatre makers such as Athol Fugard, John Kani and Winston Ntshona. They have had to explore Marxism through the work of Brecht. They have had to analyse the postmodern condition that we find ourselves in and how to find meaning in a time where meaning is so subjective.

Our Dramatic Arts learners have explored, performed, and continued despite isolation and restriction. They have proven that they continue to be creative and can overcome challenges: from creating stop-start animations to writing their own poetry and plays to mastering the techniques of video-recording their performances.

As one of the Grade 11s mentioned, "The Drama class has given me an environment where I can destress and feel comfortable. Without Drama, I would not have been able to cope with the stressful life of Grade 11, 2020."

## LOADSHEDDING

Should you / the school be affected by load shedding, lessons will be made available via MS Teams for access by the learners when possible. We monitor attendance and logging into classes and downloading of material and recordings by using the INSIGHT app.

## COVID-19 ARRANGEMENTS

Please pay a visit to our website for the latest on Curro during the time of COVID-19.

<https://www.curro.co.za/covid-19/>



Curro Aurora has implemented the necessary safety precautions and procedures as detailed in our Standard Operating Procedures document.

**WE URGE ALL TEACHERS, PARENTS AND LEARNERS TO ADHERE TO THE SAFETY MEASURES.**

**SOCIAL DISTANCING, THE WEARING OF MASKS AND SANITISING IS NON-NEGOTIABLE. LEARNERS MUST ALSO PLEASE BRING PERSONAL SANITISER / WIPES TO SCHOOL TO ADD ANOTHER MEASURE FOR PERSONAL PROTECTION.**

Please remember to inform the school of any comorbidities within your family – this must be done by contacting each child's respective Grade Head or Phase Head.

## SCHOOL TRANSPORT

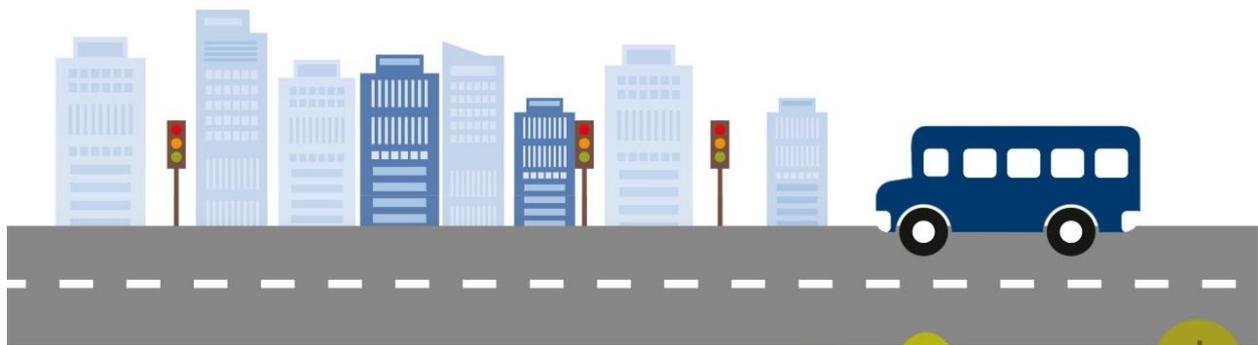
Curro Aurora offers safe school transportation to our families in the mornings and afternoons while adhering to strict Covid-19 protocols. Transport facility is offered to learners from Grades 3 to 12.

- \* Sanitising upon entering the vehicle.
- \* Social distancing measures in place.
- \* Wearing of masks are compulsory.

Enquire now with [josie.m@curro.co.za](mailto:josie.m@curro.co.za).



Curro Aurora offers a **bus service** that covers various routes:



Randpark | Jackal Creek Golf Estate | Blandford  
Radiokop | Olivedale | Strubens Valley | Bellairs  
Fourways | Wilgeheuwel | Northriding | Honeydew  
Sundowner

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## 50% CAPACITY MEASURES:

### GRADE 10, 11 & 12:

The group of learners at school will receive the daily teaching face to face, learners not at school will receive the same teaching via MS Teams

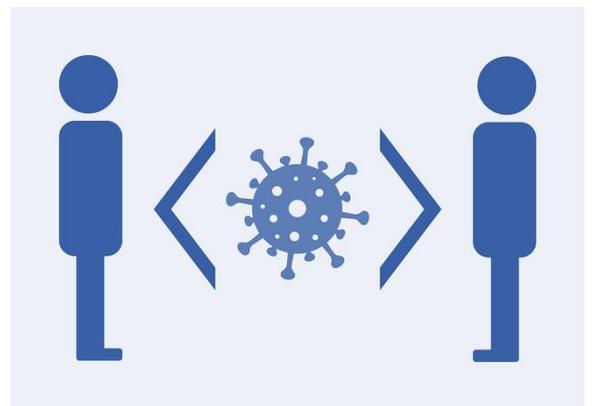
# 50%

•At 50% capacity our Grade 10 learners will be at school for face-to-face teaching and continue with online learning on alternate days. However, while our matric group is isolated in the Galaxy Hall writing Prelim exams, the Grade 11 learners will be at school every day for the remainder of this term. Grade 11s must wear their school uniforms on Mondays; Wednesdays and Fridays.

- For all learners to be taught by their teachers at school, we will be following our normal timetable, practicing social distancing as far as possible and making use of bigger venues for bigger groups whenever possible.
- The group of learners at school will receive the daily teaching face to face, learners not at school will receive the same teaching via MS Teams, online.

### GRADE 8 & 9

- For all learners to be taught by their teachers at school, we will be following a normal two-week cycle whereby each class is split into two groups, Group A and B. Group A will have face-to face classes on days when Group B will have online classes on alternate days and vice versa.
- 50% of learners in a tutor class to be at school on any specific day. This limits the number of bodies on campus for each day.
- Grades 8 and 9 learners are moving classes to limit academic time lost as teachers had to move to new venue, do sanitizing procedures for the class and then log on to the school network again and then access MS Teams to allow for hybrid teaching before classes could start. In lieu of this, we ask that learners please bring own sanitizing wipes or spray for their own desks as they move about. Though teachers do sanitise as far as possible between lessons, and the cleaning staff sanitise at breaks and after school, it is only prudent that learners take on the responsibility of looking after their own health too – the educational value of this cannot be over-emphasized.



## CULTURE

*Mrs Saskia Snyders*

### **CURRO CREATE'S STRAIGHT2CAMERA FESTIVAL**

Due to all the changes and developments, obstacles and the dreaded "new norm" of 2020, the Curro Create National Youth Theatre Festival had to adapt as well because the one act play festival could not be facilitated.

The organisers have created the CCNYTF #Straight2Camera Monologue Festival which is a virtual festival in which learners could choose, rehearse, perform, and record a monologue from various categories in the safety and comfort of their own homes. These videos were then shared with a panel of incredible and trustworthy adjudicators and mentors who evaluated the performances.

This festival was open to all the Curro Schools in South Africa as well as Namibia. More than 400 entries were received. It is with great pride that we can announce that four of our Curro Aurora learners have made it to the next round.

In the Rising Stars Category, Grade 8 – 10:

Achumile Koyana and  
Matsibe Mahonko were selected as part of the TOP 21!

In the Stars Category, Grade 11 – 12:

Liam Bosman and  
Sabrina Freeman were selected as part of TOP 10!

These four learners have a lot of creative work to do in the next 3 weeks and we support them all the way! Break a leg!

#bluepride



## Category: The Stars (Grades 11 and 12)

Our top 10 actors are:

- Caleb Hawkins** | Grade 11 | Curro Hillcrest
- Destiny Webb** | Grade 11 | Curro Hermanus
- Karl Naidoo** | Grade 12 | Grantleigh
- Liam Bosman** | Grade 11 | Curro Aurora
- Lianka Grobler** | Grade 11 | St Dominics Newcastle
- Naledi Mphahlele** | Grade 11 | Curro Secunda
- Nombi Msweli** | Grade 12 | Grantleigh
- Ntokozo Mthethwa** | Grade 11 | Grantleigh
- Sabrina Freeman** | Grade 11 | Curro Aurora
- Temogo Bendlela** | Grade 12 | Northern Academy

*Congratulations!  
We are looking forward to the  
final national round!*

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[www.curro.co.za](http://www.curro.co.za)





## Category: The Rising Stars (Grades 8 to 10)

Our top 21 actors are:

- Achumile Koyana | Grade 10 | Curro Aurora
- Ane Lourens | Grade 9 | Curro Hermanus
- Azande Phili | Grade 9 | Curro Hillcrest
- Boipelo Tshabalala | Grade 9 | Curro Waterfall
- Eden Tselon | Grade 9 | Curro Hillcrest
- Gené Bester | Grade 9 | Curro Hillcrest
- Jenna van Eyssen | Grade 10 | Curro Hillcrest
- Khensile Guambe | Grade 10 | Woodhill College
- Khumo Lebakeng | Grade 10 | Grantleigh
- Marelee Ferreira | Grade 8 | Windhoek Gymnasium
- Matsibe Mahonko | Grade 10 | Curro Aurora
- Nozithelo Dubihlela | Grade 9 | Curro Academy Sandown
- Shani Nel | Grade 10 | Windhoek Gymnasium
- Simphiwe Mngadi | Grade 9 | Grantleigh
- Taylor Slater | Grade 9 | Curro Hillcrest
- Tyrone Sun | Grade 8 | Woodhill College
- Vuli Mbele | Grade 10 | Curro Academy Wilgeheuwel
- Wessel Kotze | Grade 9 | Windhoek Gymnasium
- Zandri van Greunen | Grade 10 | Curro Mossel Bay
- Zime Silinda | Grade 9 | Grantleigh
- Zoë Josias | Grade 10 | Woodhill College

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## SPORT

Mr Adrian Ferreira



Warrick Hammond is a Mathematics educator, Grade Head and manages rugby in the High School. I interviewed him and got his insight and thoughts on training and fitness, as well as his thoughts on rugby at Curro Aurora.

*What sports have you played and still play?*

I have played rugby, cricket, squash, athletics, mountain biking and still enjoy playing tennis.

*What are some of your highlights and achievements as a coach or manager at Curro Aurora?*

- The increasing number of rugby players across all our teams. We had enough players available this year to select a 1st team XV, despite our focus on sevens.
- In 2020, every team had players who were new to the sport.
- The increased interest in and support of the teams. We had “travelling supporters” this year who spent long hours in the sun to support our teams.
- All three of our age-group teams won trophies at the 2019 Warriors League finals.
- The 1st team’s victory over Tyger Valley College away from home at the derby day this year.

*Why would you recommend rugby as an extra-mural?*

Rugby teaches self-discipline and teamwork. At Curro Aurora, we pride ourselves on fair play and inclusivity for anyone interested in the sport. Not only is one benefitting from the physical exercise and fitness, but hand-eye coordination and spatial awareness are also improved.

*How does fitness contribute to a player’s success?*

Fitness allows a player to focus more by improving the oxygen levels in the blood stream. This allows players to think clearly and make good decisions about the game. Fitness also allows a player to continue giving their all until the final whistle, without becoming fatigued and needing to be substituted. In rugby sevens, the team that has the fittest players will often triumph.

Extra-mural participation:

Rugby, like any other sport, provides an opportunity for participants to compete at various levels, to learn new skills, to improve fitness and to enjoy. Having witnessed Mr. Hammond’s Curro Aurora highlights, the players were certainly having fun as a result of great camaraderie, teamwork and committed application.

The extra-mural programme at Curro Aurora provides all learners with the opportunity to participate in culture, service and sport. When the extra-mural programme resumes, we encourage all learners



who don't participate to try out a new activity. They may find an activity that they enjoy and are good at!

Consider what 2019 World Cup Winner Springbok Faf de Klerk (South Africa) has to say:

“We all say we enjoy playing rugby, but most guys don't really show it - and some guys I don't think actually enjoy it. So every time I arrive in the morning, I've always got a smile on my face.

Once I lose that enjoyment, I will stop playing.”

## FITNESS:

Craig Hourquebie's weekly Friday fitness sessions provide learners the opportunity to develop their fitness levels. He is now providing a Tuesday fitness programme for the staff to enjoy!

## WEEKLY TRIVIA:

We will be asking 5 sports-themed questions each week. The answers will be revealed in next week's newsletter.

This week's theme is rugby:

1. Which 2 South African players have won 2 World Cups?
2. Who is South Africa's most capped test player?
3. Which provincial team has won the most Currie Cups?
4. How many South Africans have refereed a World Cup final? Name them, the year they officiated in, and the final result.
5. Which two players have scored the most tries in all the World Cups in which they have played?

Good luck and no googling!

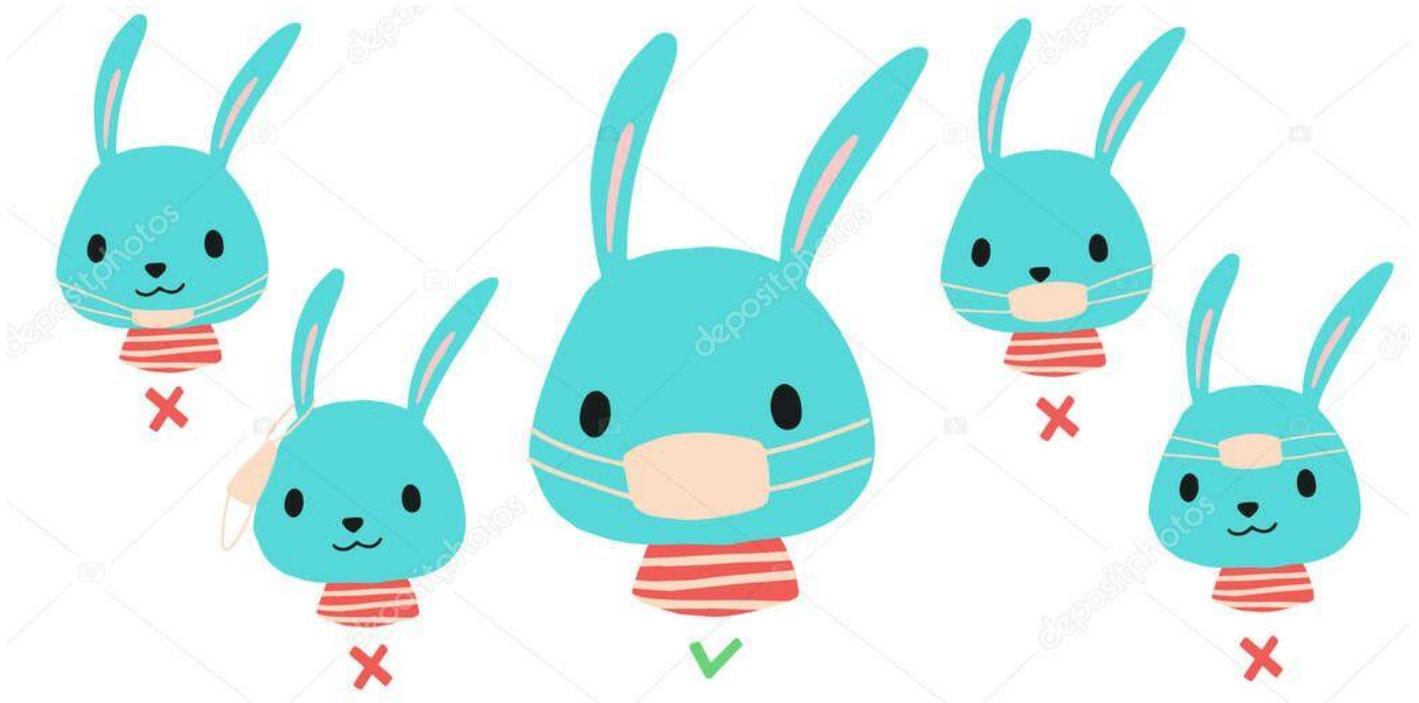
## Previous week's netball answers:

1. Who won the final?
  - New Zealand beat Australia 52-51
2. In what position did South African finish?
  - They lost 58-42 to England to finish 4th
3. Who was the Player of the Tournament?
  - South Africa's Karla Pretorius who played wing defence
4. The England netball coach has a brother, who coached the England women's football team at the FIFA Women's World Cup in the same year. Can you name them?
  - Tracey Neville coached the England netball team and her twin brother Phil Neville coached the England women's football team at the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup .
5. Who appeared in her sixth World Cup, the most by any player in the history of the World Cup?
  - Trinidad and Tobago's Rhonda John-Davis

## WEARING A MASK TO SCHOOL

Mrs SJ Olivier

You have been provided with two masks by the school. You are welcome to wear your own mask. Remember that your cloth mask must have a minimum of two layers. You may not re-use a single use mask.



Always wear your mask correctly! The mask must cover your nose and your mouth and fit snugly over the bridge of your nose and against the sides of your face.

Before you put your mask on, wash or sanitise your hands properly.

Remember that you will have to be wearing your mask when you arrive at the school gate to have your temperature checked.

Avoid touching your mask while you are wearing it. Make sure your mask fits correctly so that you do not need to adjust it. If you do touch your mask, be sure to sanitise your hands immediately. When removing your mask, do not touch the front of the mask.

Remove it by using the ties around your head or behind your ears.

Wash your mask after every use.

## COMMUNICATION:

Contact details of the School Management Team and Grade Heads herewith for easy reference:

<b>Receptionist</b>	Cindy Duma	<a href="mailto:Cindy.D3@curro.co.za">Cindy.D3@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Head of High School</b>	Dion Kotze	<a href="mailto:Dion.K@curro.co.za">Dion.K@curro.co.za</a>
<b>FET Phase Head</b>	Sarah-Jane Olivier	<a href="mailto:Sarah-Jane.O01@curro.co.za">Sarah-Jane.O01@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Snr Phase Head</b>	Donne Valkenburg	<a href="mailto:Donne.V1@curro.co.za">Donne.V1@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Head of Sport</b>	Adrian Ferreira	<a href="mailto:Adrian.F@curroholdings.co.za">Adrian.F@curroholdings.co.za</a>
<b>Head of Culture</b>	Saskia Snyders	<a href="mailto:Saskia.S@curro.co.za">Saskia.S@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Grade 12 Heads</b>	Nicole Webb	<a href="mailto:Nicole.W2@curro.co.za">Nicole.W2@curro.co.za</a>
	Maria Chou	<a href="mailto:Maria.C@curro.co.za">Maria.C@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Grade 11 Heads</b>	Judy Beeston	<a href="mailto:Judy.B@curroholdings.co.za">Judy.B@curroholdings.co.za</a>
	Anita Bornman	<a href="mailto:Anita.B@curro.co.za">Anita.B@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Grade 10 Heads</b>	Janine Tobin	<a href="mailto:Janine.T@curro.co.za">Janine.T@curro.co.za</a>
	Wendy Longwitz	<a href="mailto:Wendy.L2@curro.co.za">Wendy.L2@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Grade 9 Heads</b>	Kelsey Gallon	<a href="mailto:Kelsey.G2@curro.co.za">Kelsey.G2@curro.co.za</a>
	Loutjie de Wet	<a href="mailto:Loutjie.D@curro.co.za">Loutjie.D@curro.co.za</a>
<b>Grade 8 Heads</b>	Kyla Hayter	<a href="mailto:Kyla.H@curro.co.za">Kyla.H@curro.co.za</a>
	Warrick Hammond	<a href="mailto:Warrick.H@curro.co.za">Warrick.H@curro.co.za</a>

## STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs Mariam Saloojee will be leaving Curro Aurora on 9 October to take up a full-time position as MOMMY – we wish her and baby Saloojee all the very best and thank her for five wonderful years of service to our learners. Mrs Nadia van Biljon will be joining our teaching team on 12 October in the Physical Sciences department. Mrs van Biljon is an experienced Physical Sciences educator and passionate about hockey. She has expressed her excitement in joining our team.

WE ARE OPEN

## CURRO AURORA

# AFTERCARE

A home away from home

ENROL  
NOW



From 2,5 years to Grade 7 | Open until 17:30  
All safety measures in place during the  
COVID-19 pandemic.

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## SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP

Curro Aurora parents, please be advised that the Secondhand Uniform Shop has relocated to where the GRIT Lounge used to be at main reception.

The shop will continue to operate on an appointment basis during the following hours.

Monday	07h00 - 11h00
Wednesday	11h00 - 15h00
Friday	11h00 - 15h00

Please contact the shop coordinator Andy Watkins 0837833653 to make an appointment or call Andy should you have any queries regarding the process.

## DEBIT ORDER DRIVE

“Parents/Guardians, Curro has embarked on a debit order drive making it convenient and hassle free. Should you wish to move to a debit order payment method, please refer to the flyer below for more information.”



The flyer features a dark blue background with a network of white lines and dots. At the top left is a green circle containing a hand icon pointing at a signal icon. To its right, the text reads "Select the DEBIT-ORDER option". Below this, the text "There are so many benefits" is displayed. Five colorful circles represent different benefits: "Hassle-free" (orange, thumbs up icon), "Convenient" (pink, checkmark icon), "Better budget-planning" (purple, calculator icon), "Reduces bank fees" (white, hand holding a coin icon), and "Better school account management" (teal, wallet and coins icon). At the bottom, a green banner contains the text "SWITCH TODAY. ASK US HOW!" and "Contact Angela Schoeman at angela.s1@curro.co.za."

Select the **DEBIT-ORDER** option

There are so many benefits

- Hassle-free
- Convenient
- Better budget-planning
- Reduces bank fees
- Better school account management

**SWITCH TODAY. ASK US HOW!**  
Contact Angela Schoeman at [angela.s1@curro.co.za](mailto:angela.s1@curro.co.za).

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[www.curro.co.za](http://www.curro.co.za)

087 087 0355

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## SPRING SERVICE INITIATIVE

Curro Aurora Whole School Initiative in Support of New Hope Animal Shelter.

Please donate any duplicate or unwanted Checkers Little Garden collectables that you may have. Drop-off from the 1- 23 September 2020 with Josie at Main Reception.

Your Support is Priceless!

# Spring Service Initiative

Support for New Hope Animal Shelter

Drop-off dates: 1 to 23 September 2020 | Drop-off point: Josie at reception



We encourage the entire school to participate.

#Learners2Leaders

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## ALTERNATE SCHOOL CONTACT NUMBERS

Parents/ Guardians, kindly note that if you are experiencing a problem reaching our school switchboard line, please use the updated alternate numbers below:



Admin Reception Josie	082 233 7500
Admin Finance/ Enrolments	067 356 2969
Castle Office Rowena	067 396 1583
Primary School Office Anneline	079 580 1482
High School Office Cindy	079 560 2680
Sports Office/PAA	079 574 0062

## THOUGHT TO PONDER:



We wish you and your loved ones continued health – please keep safe.

Yours in education,

Dion Kotze  
Head of High School