

Date: 14 May 2021

Issue no.: 16

Dear Parents, Guardians & Learners

PUNCTUALITY

Despite many pleas for learners to be punctual, we still have a large number of learners who arrive late for school. This creates a problem for teachers who are involved in the screening and recording of temperatures every morning as they need to be in class at 7:45 to start the academic day.



TEMPERATURE SCREENING AND
RECORDING IS FROM
06:45 TO 07:45
SCHOOL STARTS AT **07:45** WITH TUTOR
LESSON.



We therefore ask that parents ensure that learners get to school on time please,

Puttick gate will close at 08:00 in the mornings, with Taurus road gate to be used as only entry point thereafter.

Please note:

The Taurus gate screening station in Galaxy hall closes at **7:45** to allow for teachers and learners to be in class on time.

Late comers will need to sign in with the security guard on gate duty. This may lead to a delay in getting to class.

We thank you for your understanding.

ADJUSTED RISK MITIGATION - COVID19

We have been fortunate indeed that updates, such as this, have not been necessary for some time. However, as winter approaches, we find ourselves back in the position of having to exercise vigilance and caution once more.

Curro's priority remains the safeguarding of the lives and health of its learners and staff while ensuring that effective learning continues and that all learners can prepare for and write mid-year exams.

The SA COVID-19 Modelling Consortium, referenced by the Department of Health, indicates that some districts in the country are fast approaching a resurgence threshold. The Department of Health has noted a 46% increase in new cases from 8593 in the week 26 Apr to 2 May to 12 531 from 2 to 9 May.

Schools, outside of Curro, are reporting infection outbreaks (e.g. St Johns College, Krugersdorp High, Afrikaans Hoër Seunsskool etc.) to the extent that many schools have taken urgent steps to prevent further infections by cancelling sport fixtures and adjusting their protocols. Reports received confirmed the cancellation of contact sport training and matches in areas where infections are currently increasing.

It is important to emphasize that there is no cause for alarm in Curro schools, but we *have* recorded an increased frequency of new case reports in our communities.

However, recognizing our collective responsibility in terms of our duty of care as custodians of our school communities, *we are to adopt a pre-emptive approach* to an anticipated full resurgence of COVID-19 in SA ("the 3rd wave"). We are aware of the national situation and we are managing our health and safety processes accordingly.

With this in mind the decision was taken to implement the following precautionary measures at Curro Aurora:

1. All excursions, outings, teambuilding events and camps will be postponed until further notice.
2. A return to **non-contact** sport **practices/training** sessions **only** under strict adherence to protocols e.g. tennis, golf etc. It must be recognised that participation in **contact sports** (rugby, netball, soccer, hockey, cheerleading) present higher risk. **All contact sport training** for the period **17 May to 22 May** will be cancelled. An informed decision whether to resume training sessions after 22 May will be taken on Friday 21 May.
3. All **interschool fixtures/matches for contact sport** scheduled for the period **17 to 29 May** will be cancelled. An informed decision whether to resume matches will be taken on Friday 28 May.
4. **Non-contact** cultural activities will continue for now.
5. **Online** assemblies and meetings will continue.
6. We will continue to implement strict daily sanitisation and deep-cleaning routines of all venues (fogging and sanitising).

There is, at this point in time, no need to close schools or interrupt learning. However, the situation remains fluid and the amendment of our academic protocols will be considered if there is a need.

It must be noted that these measures are short-term interventions intended to protect the health and well-being within the context of the rising number of infections in SA. We wish to avoid numbers of learners falling ill and not being able to write mid-year exams.

Thank you for your support in this regard.

JC Engelbrecht – Executive Head

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES

Tomorrow is **International Day of Families**. The family unit began with the first humans. While families today may look different than they did thousands of years ago, they are as equally important now as they were then. The United Nations believed families important enough to recognize them through a day of observance and, in 1994, chose May 15 as International Day of Families.



The 2021 observance of the International Day of Families focuses on the impacts of new technologies on the well-being of families and carries the theme “Socially just transition towards sustainable development: the role of digital technologies on social development and well-being of all.”

Families, both traditional and non-traditional, are the foundation of society. Our most formative years are spent with our families and those people are likely the most important people in our lives, so they should be celebrated.

As far as the COVID19 pandemic has brought disaster to our socioeconomic system, it has also made us think about the value of family lost in the hustle of modernisation. On this day, we should know that some families are experiencing hardships, while also thanking our own families. A family is the basic and most important institution of society. A nation is built on the family system. Its major role is to train and mold the characters. It is the place where we receive our first education and where values and other traits are learned. It is, therefore, our responsibility to develop the right attitudes towards our families, because a family in harmony will prosper in everything.

No two families are alike, and families with the greatest privilege can do their part on this holiday to learn about the problems facing other families. The 2021 epidemic of COVID-19 highlights the importance of investing in community policies to protect the most vulnerable people and families. It is the families that bear the brunt of the crisis, protect their members from harm, care for illiterate children and, at the same time, continue their work responsibilities.

The family nurtures us in our formative years into adulthood. While not all families are perfect and there are people who do not have a good relationship with their families, you can use this day to celebrate anyone in your life who you think is “family” – they may not be blood relatives.

Thank you for being part of the Curro Aurora family – we value each and every one of you.

GRADE 7 VISIT TO HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs Donne Valkenburg



Last week, our Grade 7s learners made contact with the High School and went on a “walkabout” tour during break. The vibe was tangible as the school band was playing and the mood was quite festive.

On Friday, the Grade 7s were lucky enough to be addressed by the Matric Head Prefects, Rebecca and Siphesihle, as they shared their achievements and experiences of Curro Aurora with them. Rebecca has been at our school since the Solaria days and Siphesihle was the Deputy Head Boy in Primary School too.

The Grade 7s were also introduced to twelve other ex-Head Prefects, who are currently in Grade 8 and 9 at our school (six in Grade 8 and six in Grade 9). We are privileged to attract these top learners who come from not only our own primary school, but also from our surrounding feeder schools. We have numerous top achievers in all our Grades which encompass the five pillars in our school: Academics, Leadership, Sport, Culture and Service.



The Grade 7s heard their reasons for choosing Curro Aurora and what activities they are presently involved in. They also received tips about what to expect in High School, but the main message that came through was that at our school you can be yourself and be accepted – you are encouraged to be yourself! You must get involved because that is where you can make a difference and the wonderful nature of our learners is applauded because they are so diverse and accepting of each other. It is not the buildings that make our school unique but our learners, staff and every person who works here that makes it such a special place to be.

We look forward to welcoming the 2022 Cubs into our Pride!

THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN UNDERSTANDING DIVERSITY

Mrs Helen Steyn

There is no question that our society is diverse. This diversity spans from race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, gender, sexual orientation, educational background, ability, religion and language.



What role do parents play in helping students understand diversity to live meaningful lives?

Parents must have the mindset to lead their children in ways that are welcoming and supportive of all people in a community.

Here are some suggestions on what parents can do:

- *Broaden social network of comfort zones*

An important step to deepen understanding about diversity is to socialise with people whom you do not normally (or

naturally) associate. We learn best from those who challenge our way of thinking and being. Invite your child's friends over for coffee or create other simple ways for them to socialise with friends from different cultures.

- *Engage in real conversations about diversity*

Make time for your children where they can talk directly and explicitly about matters of diversity. Let them ask questions and try to answer objectively.

Real talk about diversity allows for expanded cognitive and social consciousness that can make a difference in the actions of those in the family unit.

- *Be careful not to generalise*

Teach your children the importance of valuing people as individuals and help them not to stereotype people. Learning as much as one can about others is an important strategy in breaking down misconceptions and hurtful assumptions.

- *Diversity is a journey*

It is not appropriate to think of diversity awareness as a destination. Learning about yourself and others requires that we consistently engage in processes of introspective learning. Through this journey, you can increase knowledge and understanding of yourself and other cultures. We should consistently work together with our children to gain insight about the ways in which diversity works.

APT

Mrs Didem Turgut

The function of the Curro Aurora APT is to build a strong relationship between parents, teachers, and management as well as to raise funds for the benefit of our school. We do this by arranging entertaining and enjoyable events and, in doing so, promote school spirit and contribute to building our school community.



We look forward to your support & welcome you to be a part of our school fundraising community.

For more information kindly contact:

Didem Turgut on 079 874 8296 or

Sean McTiernan on 082 904 2979.

BEANIES AND SCARVES



Curro Aurora branded beanies and scarves are now on sale from Josie at main reception.

The cost of beanies is R75.00 and scarves are R150.00.

Please note that your school fee accounts will be debited and no cash will be accepted.

CULTURE

Mrs Saskia Snyders

CULTURE ACTIVITIES

The Culture programme is packed and there are several exciting activities where learners can join and become part of the Culture community at our school.

ACTIVITY	TEACHER IN CHARGE	DAY	TIME
HS CHOIR	1. K Hayter	Mondays	17:00 – 18:30
HS Photography Club	1. L Reddy	Wednesdays	14:00 – 15:00
Drama Club	1. H Dawson 2. A Bornman	Wednesdays	14:00 – 15:30

Creative Writing	1. K Gallon	Thursdays	14:40 – 15:30
Curro Create National Youth Theatre Festival - Roses of Red (Learner directed)	1. S Snyders 2. A Bornman 3. H Dawson 4. L de Wet	Rehearsals to be confirmed once casts have been selected.	
Curro Create #Straight2Camera Monologue Festival	1. S Snyders	Individual sessions with entrants	
FEDA Programme (*Only selected learners)	1. S Snyders 2. H Dawson 3. L de Wet 4. A Bornman	Mondays	14:45 – 15:45
		Wednesdays	14:00 – 15:00
		Fridays	14:30 – 15:30
National Eisteddfod Academy	1. S Snyders	Tuesdays	14:45 – 15:45
Slam Poetry Group (Learner initiative)	1. M Dlamini	Thursdays	Second Break 12:30 – 12:50
Sound and Lighting Team (SALT)	1. A Neethling 2. D Bentel 3. S Snyders	*Anyone interested in joining the Sound and Lighting Team to please speak to Mrs Snyders about training.	As per relevant and required performances and events
Praise and Worship	1. S van Dyk 2. S Snyders	Wednesdays	Break 10:30 – 11:00

For more information please contact Mrs Snyders: Saskia.s@curro.co.za

CURRO CAS



Well done!

160 entries; weeks of preparation, rehearsals, and creativity; and days of recording and filming.

Thank you to every Curro Aurora High School learner who entered and participated.

We look forward to hearing back from the mentor-adjudicators and will share feedback once we have received it.

NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD YOUNG PERFORMER AWARDS



Paul Harber (Grade 9) and Alicia Ferguson (Grade 12 – 2020) were selected as finalists for their respective categories for the National Eisteddfod Academy’s Young Performer Awards.

They performed at the Roodepoort Theatre on Saturday, 8 May. We are thrilled to have shared in their excitement and joy. Congratulations to the two finalists. **Congratulations to Alicia Ferguson who was also awarded Most Inspiring award. We are proud of you, Paul and Alicia.**

SPORT

Sports Results:

Golf:

The golfers played in the Woodlands Junior Masters at Royal Johannesburg & Kensington Golf Club from Sunday, 09 until Tuesday 11, May.

Individual tournament places:

Stefano Marchetti: 2nd
Kael Strydom: tie-10th
Arnoux van der Merwe: 83rd
Cameron Strauss: tie-96th
Berk Turgut: 101st
Tae’yn Plaatjies: 103rd



Hockey:

The girls played at HeronBridge College on Wednesday, 12 May.

Results:

- 1st lost 1-0
- Juniors lost 3-0

The boys hosted St Martin’s School on Wednesday, 12 May.

Results:

- 1st won 5-2
- Juniors lost 2-1

Netball:

Greenside High School hosted the teams on Thursday, 06 May.

Results:

- 1st won 20-15
- u/15 won 21-1
- u/14 won 15-4

Equestrian:

Mrs Janine Tobin



SANESA Gauteng West Qualifier 2
8 - 9 May 2021



Our High School rider, Rae-Kyndra Ragoobee (Grade 11) has achieved super results at the SANESA Gauteng West Qualifier 2 this past weekend at Maple Ridge Equestrian Farm.

Rae-Kyndra is looking forward to competing in SANESA Qualifier 3 to be held 05 & 06 June 2021.

Rae-Kyndra Ragoobee (Grade 11):

- 1st place – Handy Hunter 90 cm Level 5
- 3rd place – Showjumping 90cm Level 3 Accumulator
- 3rd place – Showjumping 90cm Level 3 Competition
- 4th place – Equitation 90cm Level 4

HOCKEY: LUMLEY & HAGUE 2021

Mrs. Nadia van Biljon

Last weekend we proudly hosted the annual Lumley&Hague Girls' Hockey Festival. Shannon Lumley and Rain Hague are Curro Aurora alumni who initiated the event in 2017. Invitational teams from Northcliff High School, Rand Park High School and Parktown High School for Girls were in attendance, alongside our 1st Team Girls.



What started out as a bleak morning full of rain eventually cleared and proved to be a successful day showcasing top level schoolgirl hockey from all attending teams with exciting games, nail-biting shootouts, and impressive performances all round.

Our girls displayed strength, integrity, and tenacity against skillful competitors. I am extremely proud of the progress that they have and continue to make on a weekly basis.



The final placements were as follows:

- 1st Place – Northcliff High School
- 2nd Place – Rand Park High School
- 3rd Place – Curro Aurora High School
- 4th Place – Parktown High School for Girls

I would like to extend my thanks to all parties involved in making this event a success, from our coaching and management staff, umpires, medics, ground staff and TK Hockey for their stick sponsorship for the Player of the Tournament.

Mention must be made to one of our 1st Team Players – Grade 12 learner Boitshepo Menyatso - who was awarded overall Defender of the Tournament.

We look forward to watching us grow bigger, better, and stronger in the future!

SERVICE SLIPPER DAY

THANK YOU!

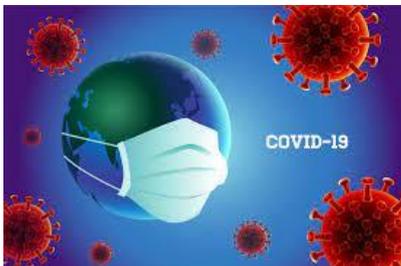
Thank you to our parents, guardians, learners and staff who supported the Slipper Day Campaign.

We will be donating R21 720.00 to the Reach for a Dream Foundation on behalf of you.



WEARING A MASK TO SCHOOL

Mrs SJ Olivier



A mask **MUST** be worn at all times. 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 must wear your mask when you arrive at the school gate to have your temperature checked and recorded. Avoid touching your mask while you are wearing it. Wash your mask after every use.

CONTACT DETAILS OF SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND GRADE HEADS:

Receptionist	Cindy Duma	Cindy.D3@curro.co.za
Head of High School	Dion Kotze	Dion.K@curro.co.za
FET Phase Head	Sarah-Jane Olivier	Sarah-Jane.O01@curro.co.za
Snr Phase Head	Donne Valkenburg	Donne.V1@curro.co.za
Head of Sport	Adrian Ferreira	Adrian.F@curroholdings.co.za
Head of Culture	Saskia Snyders	Saskia.S@curro.co.za
Grade 12 Heads	Judy Beeston	Judy.B@curroholdings.co.za
	Anita Bornman	Anita.B@curro.co.za
Grade 11 Heads	Janine Tobin	Janine.T@curro.co.za
	Geneva Schmidt	Geneva.G1@curro.co.za
Grade 10 Heads	Kelsey Gallon	Kelsey.G2@curro.co.za
	Loutjie de Wet	Loutjie.D@curro.co.za
Grade 9 Heads	Kyla Hayter	Kyla.H@curro.co.za
	Warrick Hammond	Warrick.H@curro.co.za
Grade 8 Heads	Hayley Dawson	Hayley.D2@curro.co.za
	Craig Hourquebie	Craig.H2@curro.co.za

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



Yours in education,

Dion Kotze
Head of High School

Recycling Plant

Dear Parents/Guardians

We would like to extend the use of our recycling plant to our Curro Aurora families.



Kindly only use the Puttick Road entrance to the recycling plant.

We only accept paper, plastic, glass and cans!

#Learners2Leaders

www.curro.co.za

CURRO
Aurora

Curro Tennis **PRIVATE COACHING AT CURRO AURORA**



For professional tennis coaching in smaller groups we will be coaching as follows:

Tuesdays - 13h30 to 14h00 - Red Ball Group
Tuesdays - 15h00 to 15h45 - Orange Ball Group
Wednesdays - 13h30 to 14h00 - Red Ball Group
Wednesdays - 14h00 to 15h00 - Green Ball Group

There are more time slots available, for further information contact our coach

For our rates and further information contact Tiaan Erasmus:

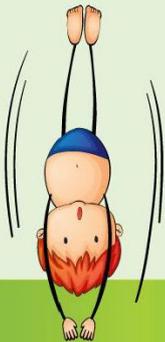
Email: tiaan.e1@curro.co.za
or Mobile: 079 183 5967



Curro-2-Curro **Fun Fact Card**



As a tribute to the school's name, the facilities are named according to a 'space/universe' theme. The blocks are named Saturn, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Newtonian and Neptune while the two halls are named the Cosmic and Galaxy Hall. The sports field is named the Galaxy Field.



#Learners2Leaders



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