

Date: 28 May 2021

Issue no.: 19

Dear Parents, Guardians & Learners

MESSAGE FROM CURRO AURORA EXECUTIVE HEAD

Mr JC Engelbrecht



Despite the very disruptive nature of the COVID19 pandemic, Curro Aurora has, since April 2020, provided our teachers and learners with the opportunity to continue teaching and learning. No child will be left behind.

We are currently monitoring the COVID19 situation and all decisions taken will be based on the situation within our school and the information received from our COVID19 Advisory Task Team. They work closely with the DBE and advisors dealing with COVID on a national scale.

The infection rate is indeed increasing but as reported, currently mainly amongst parents and adult family members (low risk). Learners who had contact with an infected family member are isolating for at least 10 days in all reported cases.

We are following the CURRO SOP and DBE directives and all the different scenarios are managed accordingly.

All COVID 19 protocols are in place with daily decontamination protocols strictly being followed. Please be assured that we will continue to be pro-active in our approach while making the necessary changes if and when needed.

At this point in time all learners are expected to attend school while online / hybrid learning is available to learners /families who are isolating due to confirmed, documented, and reported cases of infection or family comorbidities in their families.

As previously indicated, parents are welcome to contact the school in this regard.

Learners are encouraged to attend school where they can stay in a “bubble” (Primary School) and where learner contact, and behaviour can be monitored and managed.

High School exams will be written in various sessions to ensure compliance with approved protocols and venue capacity.

Thank you for your ongoing support in this regard.

EXAMS

It's a word that'll get most people's stomachs sinking and hearts fluttering. Exam anxiety can be really tough to tackle and it can affect anyone – from the most super-conscientious student to the last-minute crammer. COVID-19 has affected the lives of everyone, especially learners. It is very important to understand that it is completely natural to feel stressed and anxious during unfavourable times. One should never look down upon oneself for feeling low. Feeling stressed is our body's natural reaction for survival in unfavourable conditions.

Research consistently shows parental monitoring that supports the autonomy of the young people is linked with their better psychological adjustment and performance during difficult times. This means checking-in with your teen, seeing how they are going and empowering them to use whatever coping skills they need.

Remind them continuously that they are deserving of unconditional love and care. At the best of times, exams cause frayed nerves, a turn to caffeine-induced calmness, ruined manicures and raised voices (and that's just the parents).

Unfortunately, in times of stress, many parents use a high-monitoring low-autonomy style. Parents may still monitor their teen's coping but also take over, hurry to suggest solutions, and criticise the strategies their child is trying. This is a low-autonomy style, which may signal to the young person their parent doesn't believe in their ability to cope.

Try not come across as controlling or undermining their autonomy. Ask your teen how they are coping and listen to their answers. Check you have understood and ask if they need your support. Let your actions be guided by their response. If they say, "I'm very stressed", ask if there is something you can do. You could say: "Tell me what you need to do and we'll work it out together". If they do the famous, "I dunno", say something like, "OK, think about it, I'll come back in a bit, and we can chat." Follow through and let them know you will check in more regularly over the coming weeks.

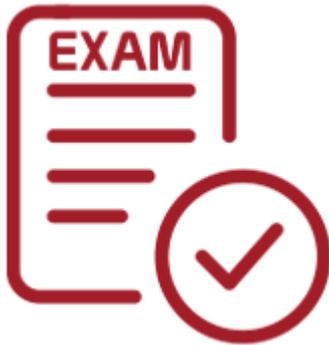


Support your teen to get exercise, downtime and sleep. Exercise helps produce endorphins — a feel-good chemical that can improve concentration and mental health. Downtime that is relaxing and enjoyable such as reading, sport or hanging out with friends can also help young people recharge physically and mentally. The secret here is to strike a healthy balance.

Remember: help is at hand – your child's teacher is a mere e-mail, phone call or Teams meeting away! The Curro Aurora partnership between parent, teacher and learner is key to success – we are always willing to assist where possible.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT LEARNERS ARE AWARE OF THE EXAM PROCEDURES AND RULES AND WE ASK THAT YOU REVISE THESE WITH YOU CHILD PLEASE.

EXAM PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR LEARNERS



You must produce a doctor's note or you will receive a zero mark if you miss an examination. Ensure that you give the doctor's note to The High School Secretary.

Learners with COVID / ISOLATING DUE TO COVID contact, need to submit their positive COVID test result (or that of the person who tested positive for COVID that he/she had contact with) prior to the exams to their Phase Head so that arrangements to write the exam can be made. Each case will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Arrive at the venue on time. You must be seated 15 minutes before the exam starts. You may not be given extra time. If you arrive more than 30 minutes late for an exam, report to the high school office.

Sit at the desk allocated to you. A list of names and desk numbers will be up in the hall windows, or on the relevant noticeboard. Leave your bags and other possessions outside the exam venue at your own risk – please do not bring valuables to school.

If you must have a cellphone with you, it must be switched off and placed under your chair.

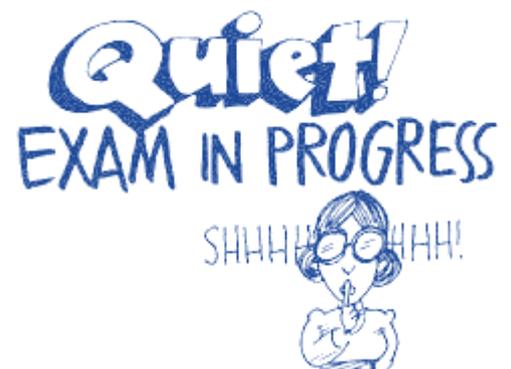
Take only stationery to the desk – contained in a clear plastic bag. Use YOUR OWN stationery and mathematical equipment – you are not allowed to borrow or share with anyone else. No Tippex or any correction fluid/tape may be used in any exam paper.

Only a non-programmable calculator WITHOUT A LID may be taken into the exam venue and only used if permitted.

Remain silent at all times when inside the exam venue. Remain seated at all times until you are given permission to leave at the end of a session.

You must be accompanied by a teacher if you need to leave the room for any reason. Please ensure that you go to the toilet before your exam starts.

Wear the correct school uniform during exams. If you are not in the correct uniform, you will be sent out of the venue and



will only be allowed to return once you are in the correct uniform. You will not be given extra time to write if you are sent out of the venue to correct your uniform.

Do not bring food or drinks (except water in a clear, see-through bottle) into the exam centre.

Realise that you will not be allowed to leave until the full time of your particular exam has lapsed.

Do not begin the reading or writing of an exam until you are given permission to do so.

Do not interact in any way whatsoever with any other person during an exam session.

Read the exam paper during the 10 minutes allocated for this purpose (no writing or highlighting is allowed during this time).

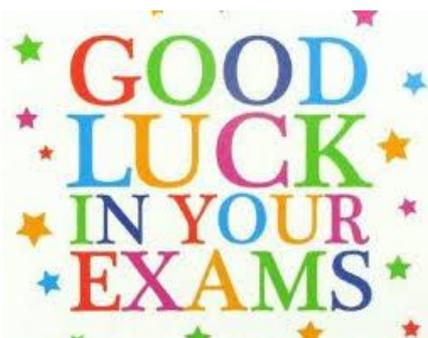
Do not cheat by having any help, aids or notes on your person or at your desk during an exam session. When a student is caught cheating or suspected of any irregularity, the incident is reported to the Head of High School, or the Phase Head. The exam script is retrieved immediately, and the time noted on the paper after the last written work. The student will be given a blank script to continue with the exam. After a thorough investigation, a decision will be made regarding the marking of the script and any disciplinary action deemed appropriate.

Should you write an exam online, your camera must be switched on, showing as much of the venue and workspace as possible. An invigilator must be within sight of the computer camera, no notes or posters of an academic nature may be in the venue and the exam must be handed in within the allotted time.

The invigilator also needs to sign the school invigilator appointment form, acknowledging compliance to the IEB invigilator rules and procedures, A booklet with said rules and procedures can be obtained from the Phase Head prior to the exams starting.



Learners waiting for their parents at the school gate are to be quiet to ensure other learners still writing are given a fair chance of doing their best too. No noise will be tolerated, and learners will be taken to a study class if necessary.



We wish all our learners the very best for the upcoming exams.

DIVERSITY

Africa Day – Miss Cindy Duma

“If I have ever seen magic, it has been in Africa” – John Hemingway

The month of May is recognized as Africa month and on Tuesday, 25 May 2021, it was Africa Day. This is a day that aims to reflect on the common challenges that the continent faces, but more importantly, to celebrate the progress we have made in our diverse continent. Each year there is a theme for this day, and this year’s theme is Arts, Culture And Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want.

This year’s theme allowed for creatives from all over Africa to unite through music and art as a tool to bring the continent together. A “mega” virtual concert was streamed on YouTube on Tuesday evening and featured artists that performed on multiple stages from Johannesburg to Lagos, and beyond.



TikTok has also jumped onto the opportunity to shine the light on African heritage through music, by creating the hashtag #IAmAfrican, which will last until the end of May. TikTok Africa will programme a line-up of in-app initiatives to highlight African content with genre-specific playlists, including Amapiano, Afrobeats, Gengetone, etc. Through this they aim to encourage inclusivity and diversity on the platform.

Celebrating our African heritage in art, regardless of the form, allows for us to become more expressive in our identity. It is important we realise the cultural diversities that exist in our continent so that we are able to learn from one another.

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 invite all our parents to become part of our school fundraising community.

For more information kindly contact Didem Turgut on 079 874 8296.

DESIGN CORNER

Mr Jannie Viljoen

Design education typically begins at the college level, but if we wait until then to teach design thinking, we are missing critical points in the growth of young minds, whose ability to think creatively is boundless. Teaching high school students to think like designers would help shape the way they look at the world around them and positively affect their future endeavours.

Our focus learner this week is Shruti Huri – a Grade 12 learner and her Term 1 and 2 final product for the brief “Kiss with a fist”, where they had to choose a form of violence in our society and plan and create a product that would highlight the problem.

This is Shruti’s explanation: “When one thinks of a solution to violence, the idea of peace comes to mind. My interpretation of the design brief was to find a way to promote peace between the two greatest groups of organisms on earth: animals and humans. I aimed to create a set of two tote bags with four designs representing the peaceful concept of some of the most dangerous animals in the world. The tiger, the wolf, the dragon, and the lion. These apex predators were often seen in reality and in mythology as violent and dangerous creatures, however, my aim was to depict these creatures in a peaceful way as they are often seen as peaceful creatures especially in the East. The two tote bags that were made were different shapes and sizes to allow for variation in function. The bags had buttons on them to allow users to button one of their chosen designs on each bag. The four designs could then be buttoned on and off each bag, depending on the user’s choice. Two of the designs (dragon and lion) were both embroidered and fabric painted onto the square design fabric, while the other two (wolf and tiger) were just painted to allow for detail and diversities of tastes.”





Our first activity to stimulate design thinking is : build an arcade game. Watch the short YouTube video for guidelines.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4am6dNDQVz4>

In our weekly insert, we will look at an innovative and interesting example of contemporary design.



This week it is the *Kassena Horseman* bench by South African design company *Dokter and Misses*. Garnering its name from the way in which the spire shape appears to be riding the floor piece, the Horseman is seen as a bench – albeit a sculptural idea of one – complete with a flap down desk and other compartments to house the things that are precious to you. It is cut from Beech, then hand-shaped with custom designed hinge mechanisms and internal elements, then hand-shaped and finished with a hand-painted geometric patterns wrapping around the cabinet. It forms part of the Kassena Town series originally inspired by the hand-painted homes of the Kassena people from northern Ghana.

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 & no cash will be accepted.



CULTURE

Mrs Saskia Snyders

NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD ACADEMY 2021/2022



The National Eisteddfod of South Africa® is calling for entries for the 2021/2022 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.

Every learner is welcome to participate. The platform caters for all performing arts and creative arts.

Any learner who is interested, must please sign up with Mrs Snyders before 28 May 2021. The learner will then be added to a MS Team dedicated to NEA administration and preparation.

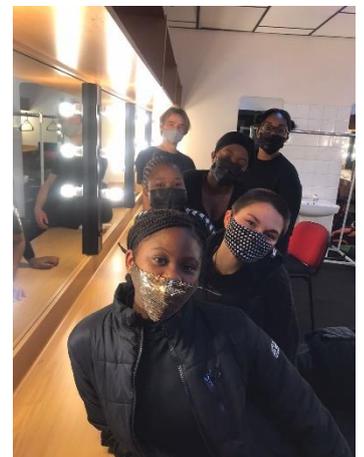
There the learners will also find all the information they need. Rehearsal and preparation sessions will start in TERM 3.

Anyone may enter the National Eisteddfod of South Africa® and there is NO limit on the number of entries that may be submitted.

FEDA

On Wednesday, 26 May 2021, a small group of FET learners performed at this year's pop-up FEDA festival held at the Joburg Theatre. Congratulations to Achumile Koyana (Grade 11), Eugene Cilliers (Grade 12), Sabrina Freeman (Grade 12), Sizenalo Bidla (Grade 12), S'Qalo Nhleko (Grade 10) and Tinaye Paradza (Grade 11). Thank you to the teachers and parents that came to support.

It was wonderful to see you on stage. The performance was described as "haunting and powerful".



SPORT

Mr Adrian Ferreira

GOLF:

The 'A' team played in the first of two SA High School Championship qualifiers at Country Club Johannesburg on Thursday, 20 May.

Result:

- 1st: Trinityhouse
- 2nd: BSI
- 3rd: Curro Aurora
- 4th: St Stithians College
- 5th: Helpmekaar Kollege

Kim Turgut and Cara Ford (Matric 2019) were part of the Gauteng Ladies 'B' team that finished in tie-8th place at the 72 Hole Teams Championship that took place at Kingswood Golf Estate from Monday, 24 to Wednesday, 26 May. They are congratulated on their selection and representation!

Mr Jono Wernich and Mr Adrian Ferreira invited Mrs Melissa Parr, who manages the Primary School golfers, to play her first ever round of golf. This momentous event took place at the Creek 9 par 3 golf course on Wednesday, 26 May. Melissa made a par 3 on the third hole. She is now surely known as a true "Mrs Parr".

MOUNTAIN BIKING:

The High and Primary School cyclists enjoyed a practice ride at the Curro Academy Wilgeheuwel track. This challenging and undulating track tests all the technical skills required.

In a "Top Gear" like challenge, Mr Jono Wernich ran a 1,6km lap and the High School cyclists did two laps to realise a result. In spite of the advantage of two wheels, the cyclist lost the challenge. In the second race, Jono prevailed again!

We encourage any learners wanting to participate in mountain biking to chat to Mr Wernich.

The sports department wish all our learners the very best for the examinations!

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.

"Nothing is impossible.

The word itself says
"I'm Possible!"

AUDREY HEPBURN

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

