

Date: 23 July 2021

Issue no.: 24

Dear Parents, Guardians & Learners



I hope you are able to stay warm this winter. I also hope you are relaxed, recharged and ready to start a new school term. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I look forward to working with you and your children this term.

As part of our in-depth planning process, we have continued to carry out comprehensive risk assessments in line with Government guidance. The risk assessments and the procedures related to them are reviewed regularly in line with any new guidance.

## ACADEMIC ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE (subject to change)

### **50%** (FET Phase):

To limit numbers on campus and ensure that more bigger venues are available for teaching, we will continue with reduced capacity measures in **Grades 10 and 11**:

- **Grade 11** learners are to be at school for face-to-face teaching on days 1; 3; 5; 7 and 9 and continue with online hybrid learning on days 2; 4; 6; 8 and 10 and rotate with Grade 10 learners. This will limit the number of bodies on campus for each day.
- **Grade 10** learners are to be at school for face-to-face teaching on days 2; 4; 6; 8 and 10 and continue with online hybrid learning on days 1; 3; 5; 7 and 9. This will limit the number of bodies on campus for each day.
- 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 (Hybrid teaching).

**ONLINE and ON-CAMPUS LEARNERS NEED TO BE IN TUTOR CLASS BY 07:45 PLEASE – LEARNERS WHO ARE LATE FOR TUTOR CLASS WILL BE MARKED AS ABSENT AND WILL BE RECORDED AS SUCH ON END-OF-TERM REPORTS.**

# 50%

## Grade 8 and 9 (Senior Phase):

- 50% of Senior Phase learners in a tutor class will therefore be at school on any specific day. This limits the number of bodies and allow for the increased social distancing required on campus for each day.
- 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**. Schedule from Monday 8 February:
  - **Group B** will have face-to-face classes on days 2; 4; 6; 8 and 10 and online classes on days 1; 3; 5; 7 and 9.
  - **Group A** will have face-to face classes on days 1; 3; 5; 7 and 9 and online classes on days 2; 4; 6; 8; 10.

**This is a temporary measure and will be reviewed over the next two weeks.**

## PUNCTUALITY



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



(Teachers who are on duty to do screening in the mornings also need to be in class by 7:45.)

## 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.

## 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.



## DESIGN CORNER

*Mr Jannie Viljoen*

### DESIGN CORNER 4

In this segment we will be looking at work produced by some of the High School learners and their thoughts on the project and design in general.

#### What is Design Thinking?

“Design Thinking isn’t one thing,” says Neil Stevenson with IDEO Chicago, one of the best-known purveyors of the concept. (IDEO offers a free, downloadable Design Thinking Toolkit at [designthinkingforeducators.com](http://designthinkingforeducators.com)). Rather, he says it’s a “bundle of mindsets and philosophies all wrapped up in one term.”

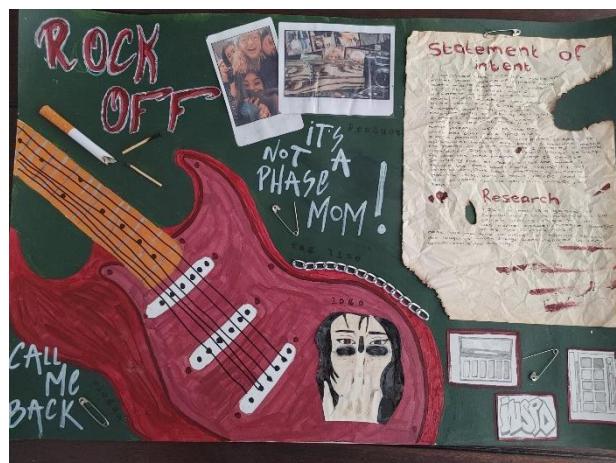
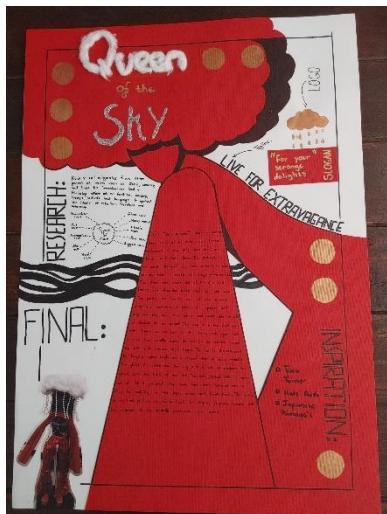
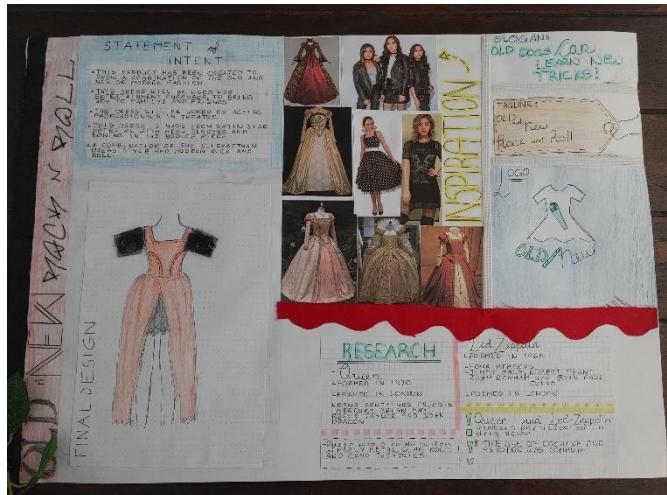
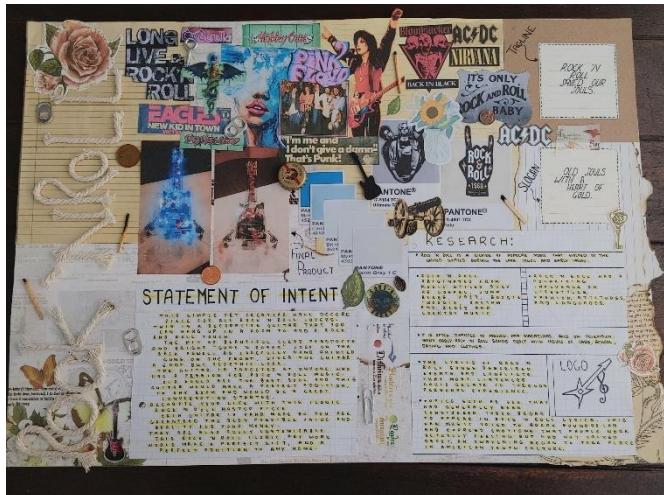
It starts with empathy. For example, if students are designing a renewable energy farm, they must first think about the needs of the people who will use the energy and the impact on neighbours, as well as the practical aspects, such as location and budget. Stevenson explains that the design-thinking philosophy requires students to put their egos aside and examine how to meet the unmet needs – rational and emotional – of the end user.

Design Thinking also stresses imagination. It means generating a lot of ideas. Teachers instruct students to have an open mind to define problems, create prototypes and hone those prototypes through multiple iterations until they have generated a viable solution or solutions. Failure and frustration are a natural part of the process. Students learn resiliency through the concept of “failing forward”.

According to a recent presentation by Stanford University, Design Thinking helps children learn “that they have the power to change the world.” Moreover, that they can change it now, rather than waiting until they’re older.

<https://smithsystem.com/>

Our learner projects this week is the Grade 11 practical exam products. These are the results of the 8-hour practical exam in which they had to create a concept board to accompany their Term 1 and 2 final products for the brief “I love Rock ‘n’ Roll”. They could create any product that can be related to Visual Communication, Surface, Product or Environmental Design.

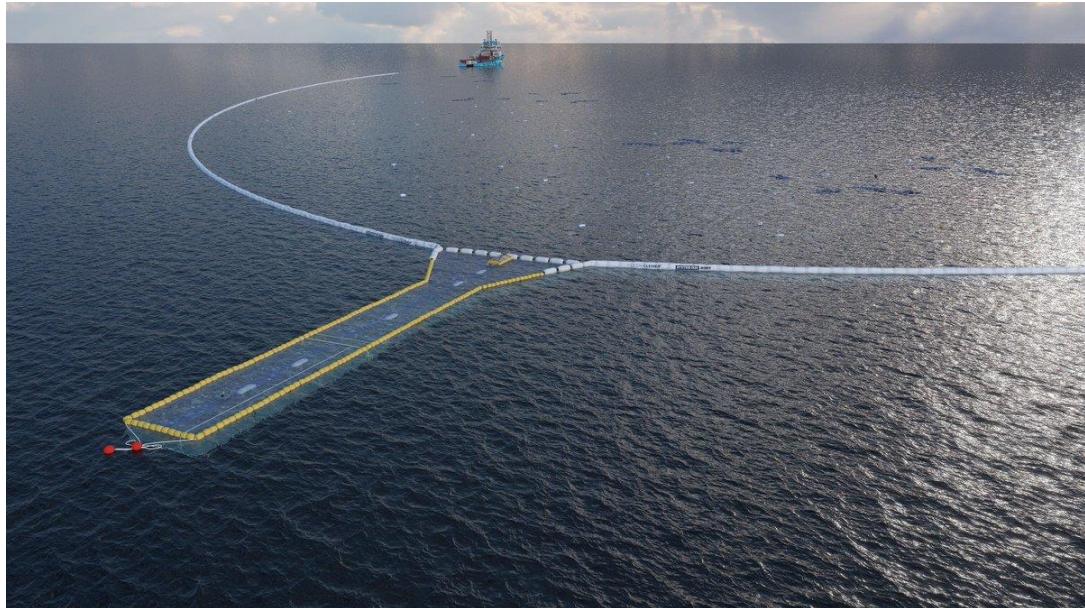


Our designer focus today is on Boyan Slat, who created *The Ocean Cleanup Project* which is about to launch System 002, aimed at cleaning an area equal to 1 soccer field of ocean plastic every 15 seconds.

Trash accumulates in five ocean garbage patches, the largest one being the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, located between Hawaii and California. If left to circulate, the plastic will impact our ecosystems, health, and economies. Solving it requires a combination of closing the source and cleaning up what has already accumulated in the ocean. The ocean is big. Cleaning up the Great Pacific Garbage Patch using conventional methods – vessels and nets – would take thousands of years and tens of billions of dollars to complete. After fleets of *The Ocean Cleanup* systems are deployed into every ocean gyre, combined with source reduction, *The Ocean Cleanup* projects to be able to remove 90% of ocean plastic by 2040.

By trialing technologies, *The Ocean Cleanup* has now confirmed the foundational concept behind their cleanup design: maintaining a relative speed difference between the plastic and the cleanup system to catch and retain plastic in the garbage patches. Following System 001/B, which used a parachute anchor to keep the system moving slower than the plastic, they concluded that they could not effectively scale up with this design.

Therefore, they shifted gears and are now developing a new approach that uses active propulsion to continuously move faster than the plastic (System 002). With an actively propelled system, they will be able to catch more plastic quicker and more efficiently because now they can – contrary to the passive approach – steer the systems towards areas with high concentrations of plastic. With System 002, they are now nearing the validation phase for their Ocean project.



Two years ago, Boyan Slat introduced The Interceptor™— the first scalable solution to intercept river plastic pollution — which can be deployed around the world and is capable of extracting between 50 and 100 tonnes of trash per day.

- <https://www.brightvibes.com/>

## ESSAY COMPETITION

*Mrs Mageshree Tandree*



Curro, together with the Ithemba Foundation, are pleased to announce an exciting essay competition (with prize money up for grabs) on HOPE for our Grade 6 and Grades 8 to 11 learners – especially in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic with its tremendous mental health pressures, feelings of isolation, loneliness and lack of social interaction – also among our youth.

Teachers will assess the essays as part of the curriculum, and the best in the grades will be entered into the competition. We believe the essays (English or Afrikaans), with their content on what hope means to a young generation, will be inspirational reading matter.

The deadline for the competition is Friday, 27 August 2021 and the winners will be announced on Friday, 24 September 2021.

## VIRTUAL LADIES GOLF

Exciting news! 🎉

In honour of Women's Month in August, we will be hosting a Ladies Virtual Golf Tournament.



The poster features a woman in a white t-shirt and black leggings swinging a golf club on a green field. To her left is a golf bag containing clubs. In the bottom right corner is the CURRO SPORT logo. The text on the poster includes:

- Virtual Ladies'**
- Inviting all our female learners, staff and family members to participate.
- GOLF COMPETITION
- 7 to 9 August 2021 | Great prizes are up for grabs!
- #Learners2Leaders

Registrations will open coming **Monday, 26 July** and close on **Friday, 30 July**. Teams can register by contacting our school's sport coordinator, Jono Wernich at [jono.w@curro.co.za](mailto:jono.w@curro.co.za).

**Teams:** Maximum of four players in a team. Teams can be a combination of females – grannies; mums; sisters; teachers; learners – as long as they are affiliated to the same school.

**Theme: Dressed for success**  
We look forward to seeing our ladies play!

# OPEN DAY

Date: 21 August 2021

Time: 08:00 – 13:00

Venue: Taurus Road entrance

From 2,5 years to Grade 12  
Quality education for future leaders

Booking  
essential



**CURRO**  
Aurora

#Learners2Leaders

087 087 0355

Please note that the photos were taken prior  
to lockdown and the COVID-19 pandemic.



## CULTURE

Mrs Saskia Snyders



### American Ballet Theatre

During a worldwide pandemic and a world turned upside down, Megan Darvall had an opportunity to partake in the American Ballet Theatre exam in March and passed with Merit.

As Mrs Darvall says, “It takes more than a pandemic to snuff out the candle of passion for dancing,” and we are extremely grateful for that.

Well done, Megan! Curro Aurora is proud of you and cannot wait to see you on stage again.

## E-SPORTS CURRO CUP

Mr Gerard Appelman

It was a Curro Aurora Esports first as our U/14 team, the BluePride Leopards, and our Open team, the BluePride CS: GOers, participated in their first ever online Esports Curro Cup this past weekend against 7 Curro schools across South Africa. The U/14 team placed 4th in their game DOTA 2 and the Open team won the entire tournament in their game CS:GO, so all in all, this was a good weekend for Esports at Curro Aurora.



## EQUESTRIAN SANESA REGIONAL FINALS TEAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs Rheetha Ragoobeer

13 July 2021, SANESA announced the Gauteng Regional Finals Team selections following the conclusion of the Qualifiers for the year.



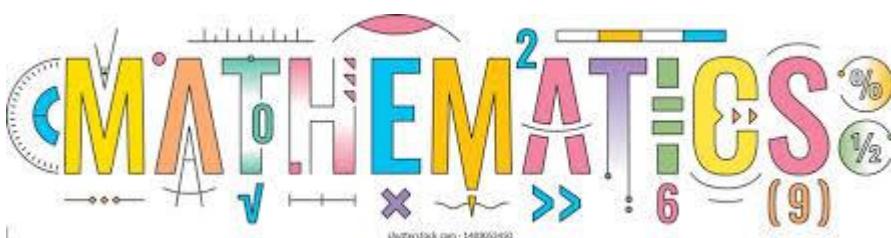
Our High School rider, **Rae-kyndra Ragoobeer** (Gr 11) was selected to participate at the Gauteng Regional Finals in the following teams and events:

- A Team: Showjumping Accumulator Lev 3 (90cm)
- A Team: Showjumping Competition Lev 3 (90cm)
- A Team: Equitation Lev 4 (90cm)
- A Team: Handy Hunter Lev 5 (90cm)



We are super proud of her achievements in the team selections and wish her all the best for the SANESA Gauteng Regional Finals which is due to take place over 04-05 September 2021 for High Schools.

## MATHEMATICS TERM 3



After the exams of last term, it was picked up that our learners in Grade 9 are having difficulty with the application of the Algebra laws, particularly when they are combined in one sum.

To assist our learners, and assure our parents, we have set aside time during the next two weeks to revise those Algebra concepts specifically.

Algebra is the foundation upon which all High School Maths is built and we want to ensure every learner starts off the term on the same level. For this to be successful, we need your continued support in ensuring that your children are actively participating and working during their lessons.

Even though it is “revision”, we are actively teaching and working through questions. Please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Kyla Talbot if you have any queries or if your child needs assistance or support. We are looking forward to a great and productive term ahead.

## DIVERSITY COVID, Crisis and Chaos – where to from here?

Mrs Dani Bentel

The last few months (which feel more like decades) have really highlighted the struggles that the majority of South Africans face daily, from our strained health care system to the increased economic struggles with each level of lockdown.

Without regurgitating the news, the last two weeks sent South Africa on a nightmare of a roller coaster, packed with anger, panic, grief, fear and uncertainty. What is left is the remains of a war zone, empty shells where businesses once provided, basic needs of food and clothing, jobs, a meeting place to exchange a socially distanced embrace, to name but a few. Yet when I look a bit deeper beyond the physical darkness, what is revealed is a deeper gap between us as South Africans.



The suffering and trauma of many is yet to be experienced, as the ones who suffer due to looted government funds are the ones who rely on those funds for their survival; the ones who suffer the most from the burning of malls and destruction of our supply chain are in fact the ones who rely on those malls for jobs and food.

It is very easy when looking at the mess we find ourselves in to turn to feelings of helplessness and anger that inevitably leaves us spiraling backwards on a road we as South Africans fought to overcome.

I would like to challenge us all to change our outlook: instead of the anger, instead of the sympathy, let us rather turn to the essence that flows within each of us - the essence of Ubuntu - *I am because you are*. This is the hope spring that we are seeing in our complicated but beautiful country. One needs only to scroll through Facebook to see the light that can come out of the darkness. The generosity of others, not only through monetary donations, but through time, skill, love and kindness is breath-taking. It is what makes us a great country, a mighty country, a country that can - and I believe – will rise from the ashes. I do not need to be a looter before I can help clean up, I do not need to have had COVID before I can make a meal for a family in isolation, I do not need to be a doctor or nurse before I can support our health care system. I do not need to be rich to be generous.

This is our new hope: out of the crisis and chaos comes an overwhelming feeling of pride and optimism that we can still depend on one other. Please get involved, change the narrative that the answers don't lie in a person or institution but rather in us. We are the hope, let us be the change we want to see.

And if I may steal President Ramaphosa's ending – Nkosi Sikelele' iAfrika – God Bless Africa.

## 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 and wash your mask after every use.

## CONTACT DETAILS OF SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND GRADE HEADS:

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

“

Hope is the companion of power, and mother of success; for who so hopes strongly has within him the gift of miracles.

SAMUEL SMILES

GRACIOUSQUOTES.COM

Yours in education,

Dion Kotze  
Head of High School

# What does HOPE mean to me?

An essay competition  
for Grade 6 and Grades 8 to 11 learners

Dear Learner

## What does HOPE mean to you as a younger generation?

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic with all its tremendous mental health pressures, feelings of isolation and lack of normal social interaction, we need HOPE more than ever.

Therefore the \*Ithemba Foundation is pleased to announce an essay competition (with enticing prize money up for grabs) together with Curro to encourage you to express your thoughts and emotions around hope.

### What is expected?

As Grade 6 and Grades 8 to 11 learners, you have to write an essay as part of your ordinary language studies curriculum (in English or Afrikaans Home Language).

Grade 6: 140 – 150 words (narrative essay)

Grade 8: 250 – 300 words (narrative, descriptive or reflective essay)

Grade 9: 300 – 350 words (narrative, descriptive or reflective essay)

Grade 10: 400 – 500 words (narrative, descriptive or reflective essay)

Grade 11: 500 – 600 words (narrative, descriptive or reflective essay)

### Deadline: Friday, 27 August 2021

Ithemba will ask well-known authors to help assist with the judging.

The winners will be announced on Friday, 24 September 2021, in time for Ithemba's 'HOPEtober'. October is South Africa's Mental Health Awareness Month, with October 10 the World Health Organisation's Mental Health Awareness Day.

### Prize money

Each category winner, in both Afrikaans and English, in Grade 6 and Grades 8 to 11, will receive R3 000 (totalling in other words prize money of R12 000); the second prize is R2 000 (totalling R8 000), and the third prize is R1 000 (totalling R4 000).

### Ready to get those words on HOPE rolling?

\* The Ithemba Foundation is a non-profit raising awareness of depression as a biological illness, and raising funds for research about on depression. Ithemba means 'hope' in isiXhosa. If we want to defeat despair, we must constantly focus on hope.

# 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!