



THE ORYX

The weekly newsletter of Windhoek International School

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Dates to Remember

March 2021

- **03:** Board Meeting
- **12:** End of Term 3
- **22:** Public Holiday
- **23:** Start of Term 4
- **23:** Gr. 9 - 12 Photo-Day
- **24:** Gr. 2 - 5 Photo-Day
- **25:** Gr. 6- 8 Photo-Day
- **26:** EY 1 - Gr.1 Photo-Day



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PRIMARY PRINCIPAL

One of the IB's five Approaches to Learning (ATL) skills is *Thinking*. This includes *critical thinking, creativity and innovation, and transfer*. Thinking is a skill that needs to be developed and practiced. Developing the skill of thinking helps students to solve problems, make decisions, consider multiple perspectives, and to be able to cope with change, with new information and situations.

Dr. Edward de Bono, a philosopher and psychologist, developed the concept of Six Thinking Hats and wrote a book of the same title. It is a tool or method to facilitate looking at problems or situations in different ways. This method has been used in businesses for team work and in schools to help students explore different viewpoints. Several classes in the Primary School use the Six Thinking Hats method. The following explains what each hat's perspective is.

Green - Creativity, energy and new ideas. It's thinking about possibilities, alternatives, and looking forward.

Yellow - Optimism, positivity, and benefits.

Black - Judgement, cautious and careful. It's playing the devil's advocate, and considers roadblocks or barriers.

White - Information, logic, facts. It examines what is known and unknown.

Red - Emotional, legitimises feelings. The red hat allows for the process of feelings without justification. It's gut thinking.

Blue - Thinking about thinking, what needs to be achieved.

The thinking hats are a visual way to help students (and adults) explore the different ways of thinking. You might ask your children if they are familiar with the thinking hats and how they are used in class. The next time you have a decision to make or a problem to solve, you might try using the Six Thinking Hats to make a clear, thought-through decision. There is a wealth of information on the internet about the thinking hats. This video provides an explanation [Six Thinking Hats by Edward De Bono](#).

Regards,
Beth Smith

SECONDARY PRINCIPAL

We are in this together - Students - Parents - Teachers (the school)



The end of term three is an important time for goal setting and making some big decisions for our students.

Yesterday night we had our annual IGCSE and IBDP information session. Thank you to all students and parents who attended. It is a great opportunity to talk to teachers about subjects for IGCSE and the IB Diploma Programme. The decision on which subjects to take for these courses, is not an easy one. There are always many factors to take into consideration. The most important aspect to consider, however, is that students chose the subjects that they enjoy doing and that give them a broad exposure to all the different fields of study. This is why we let students choose from all the different fields. The IB mission drives this thinking: "The International Baccalaureate® aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect." And our own mission encourages an education that is well rounded and balanced: "To develop the full potential of each student in a stimulating environment of academic excellence, cultural diversity and active social responsibility to become internationally minded independent thinkers." Thank you to all the teachers for being there and preparing for the evening with presentations, textbooks, displays and advice. The flyers from the different subjects that were available last night, will be posted on the Secondary School Google Classroom Group. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with teachers, if there are further questions or if you need clarification on any matters concerning the choice of subjects.

When making choices, keep in mind that you want to be able to keep a broad spectrum of opportunities open - the sciences, mathematics, languages and the arts. The more varied the choices are the more options they give for further studies. There is not one field of study that is more important than another. But it is important to find your passion and your aptitude and build on those in preparation for your future.

[HERE](#) is the presentation from last night. You can also add any questions [HERE](#) to Slido. Slido will be open until Monday and we will respond to questions on Slido and if you leave your name, I could respond to you directly. These questions are helpful for us to ensure that you have all the information necessary to make the right decision about the subjects you (students) or your child (parents) make for the next part of your educational journey. I would also appreciate feedback on the information evening. If you could take a few minutes to submit [THIS](#) form to help us take into consideration your suggestions and comments for next year.

Another opportunity to make decisions on your own learning and reflect on your learning (students) and engage in your child's learning process (parents) are the **Three Way Conferences happening on the 11th of March** throughout the day. This is a chance to set goals for the remainder of the academic year, but also to set long term goals for the next year. Assessment as a learner is a great way to build on learning that has already happened and ensure that growth continues to take place. I urge all learners and their parents to actively participate in this process as an integral part of student learning.

Students - you are the driver of your learning - you are accountable and responsible for your learning - we, your parents and teachers and the school support you and assist you all the way - and together we can ensure that your learning experiences are positive and memorable.

Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think. —Albert Einstein

Regards,
Maggie Reiff

N/a'ankuse Wildlife Sanctuary

Hello Fish Eagle Community,

Our names are Luca Steenkamp and Reuben Jackson-Read. We are students in Grade 6JB. In Grade 5 we did a PYP Exhibition Project, Luca made a website about conservation and how we could help it raise funds. Our goal is to get as many donations as possible and then donate all funds we collect to N/a'ankuse Wildlife Sanctuary. The way it works is that students and teachers can read the Google Site Luca has created, and if they want to donate N\$50 or more. The donation will go towards one meal for a cheetah or a leopard and in return, the person donating will receive a healthy homemade all-bran muffin and a flat rock with a cheetah paw print on it to say that they have helped to make a difference in conserving some amazing Namibian wildlife.

Here is the website and a short Afrikaans video I would like to share with the school:

[Website](#)

[Video](#)

Thank you for your donations and your effort to help conserve nature in Namibia.

Kind regards,
Luca Steenkamp and Reuben Jackson Read



Radio Drama

In Drama we have been exploring a storytelling medium from the past - Radio Dramas.

The Grade 8s have been having a lot of fun with this - creating sounds, using our voices in interesting ways and playing with technology! It has also been an excellent way for us to stay connected with each other and creating together despite some of us still learning remotely. I love how revisiting a style of communication and sharing from a time past can serve us well in a time where we are tempted to think that we are beyond the practices from before.

Here is a [snippet](#) of one of the plays that a group in Grade 8AJ are currently working on.

Keep your eyes on this space - we will be presenting our work in its entirety, to our community soon.

Kate Matzopoulos

Photo of the week

Emerging from the horizon yesterday some of our observant girls saw a fascinating natural phenomenon known colloquially as a Wispy WIS Cloud.

Look carefully and see if you agree?



Tom Jackson-Read



#LearningAtWIS



Think . LOVE . Adopt

SPCA Long-Time-Lonely Hearts Corner

Only for the month of February, a reduced adoption fee on our longest shelter residents apply.



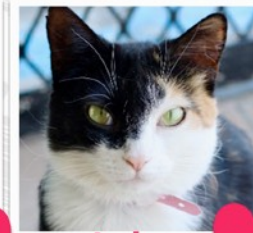
Rocky



Misty



Mercedes



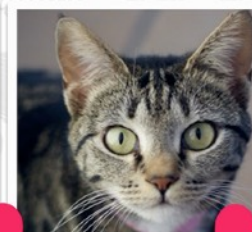
Lulu



Buttercup



Alpine

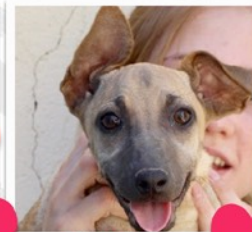


Cay

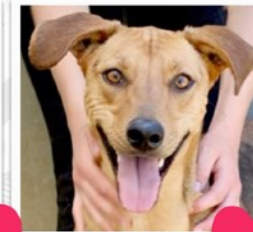
This February find your soulmate!



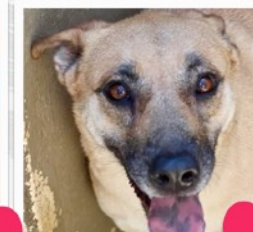
Punk



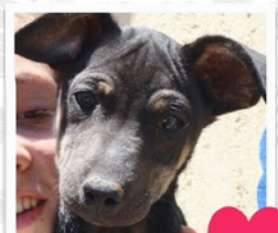
Sonja



Liberty



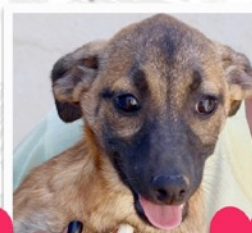
Princess



Sultan



Zareta



Suri

Cats: N\$600.00 | Dogs: N\$800.00

Adoption fees include sterilization, full inoculation and microchip.

SPCA Windhoek | 145 Robert Mugabe Avenue, Windhoek | Tel: 061-238 654 | Fax: 061-225 715
Cell: 081-124 4520 Emergency (After Hours Only) | Email: info@spcawindhoek.org.na