NEWS

The school that DARES to be DIFFERENT

CURRO Castle Sitari

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Dear Parents / Guardians

Welcome to Term 2! Our calendar is filled, once again, and although most of the events do not include our parents, our learners are really having a good time at school.

We started the term with **photo days**, followed by **Book week**. Our little, Tiny Stars had a lovely **Picasso art event** while the 2-yearolds had loads of fun on their **Sensory day**.

This past week was surely a build-up in celebration of **Mother's Day** with special videos send out to our Group 3 and 4 mothers.

Our Group 5 mothers were invited to attend Music appreciation sessions in the Mini hall today, Friday, 7 May.

We started with music appreciation for our Group 5 learners as a value-add this year and we are delighted with how the learners are enjoying this wonderful experience with Mr. Winston.

We are indeed looking forward to our **Fathers' Day** event too!

So, Dads, please keep the dates below open. It would be great if all dads can join in the fun with their little one on the morning. We are planning an event with wheels: bicycles, tricycles, scooters, and the works! Even the babies will be involved. Please diarise the following dates in your calendar:

Father's Day event: 11 June 2021: Group 3-5, Father's Day event: 18 June 2021: Group 1-2. Specific times will be allocated towards each class.

I would also like to give you a **sneak peak** of our project that we have been working on...upgrading the "milk kitchen" between the baby classrooms. The facility, now called the **Mommy Milk Way - Nursing Lounge** will be available to all parents from the baby classrooms and/or parents of older learners who have siblings that are babies that are not yet at school - either waiting for their little one or feeding them. Breastfeeding moms will have the opportunity to feed before work or at pick-up time, or to wait for their little one to wake up. With coffee and tea available in the room and relaxing music, one can only have a relaxing pleasant experience.

Last Friday we had our first visitor to the facility... and yes it was a dad... (super awesome!!) that had to feed their 3-week-old little baby while mommy was finding out more about the school.... We still have big plans for this facility and will reveal all our ideas soon.

I do wish you all a blessed second term!

Renette van der Merwe

New Learners

A hearty welcome to all our new Stars!

Staff Birthdays

We wish our staff members who are celebrating their birthdays in April and May amazing birthdays. May life bless you with happiness, good luck, success and many more years to enjoy it.

Above (from left to right):

Nicole Adams (4E1) - 11-Apr; **Loretta Noval** (3E2) - 18-Apr; **Carina Lange** (4A1)- 24-Apr; **Brendolene America** (2AE2) - 25-Apr; **Chonté Hartzenberg** (5E1) - 26 Apr; **Amy Blou** (2AE2) - 29 May

Staff Appointments

It is with sadness that we had to say goodbye to one of our stalwarts in Group 5. Teacher **Charmaine Welgemoed** has been with us since the very beginning, 2016, and has now moved to the Primary School as a Grade R teacher. Teacher Charmaine has been a superb asset to the Castle with her hard work and creative input. Charmaine, we really miss you!

Teacher **Lizaan Sauls**, our well-loved Group 4A teacher, moved into Teacher Charmaine's position and has already won over the hearts of the Blou Sterretjies.

Carina Lange has been appointed as Teacher of Group 4A, our Oranje Sterretjies class. Carina earned her B.Ed. Degree (Cum Laude) from North West University. She brings a wonderful variety of skills, teaching, administrative and community action experience to the classroom. She has a passion for education and a fun and personalised approach to teaching, with the aim to stimulate learners' enjoyment and appreciation for learning.

It's a Boy!

Teacher **Naydene Adams** gave birth to gorgeous baby boy **Fabio** on Good Friday, the 2nd of April.

Congratulations, Naydene! May he be blessed and bring much joy to you.

Happiness Day

On the 19th of March we celebrated World Happiness Day. We decorated our reception area in the most wonderful way. All the groups made special certificates in their classes, which were handed out by friends to their friends in the class. A wonderful, kind and loving day was had by all the Castle Stars!

Easter Activities

Coffee at the Castle / Bus Book Sale

On Friday, 16 April the Book Bus from Discount Books visited the Castle again, while we hosted our first Cappuccino morning for this year.

What a delight it was to welcome our visitors at school with music playing from the bus and the aroma of coffee filling the air.

Shopping for books has never been so much fun. The airconditioned Discount Book bus, with funky interior is cooler in more ways than one. It offers a fantastic selection of books for kids, parents and teachers.

Parents could purchase a cup of their favourite hot drink and start their day on a high note.

For our next Cappuccino and Book Bus morning on Friday 28 May make sure you are the one dropping off your kids. You do not want to miss it.

Open Day

On 23 April we had another Open day. Once again there was much interest in our Castle and we have received several new applications.

Book Week

What a wonderful Book Week!

The 19 – 23 April saw us celebrate the beauty of books during our Book Week! Teacher Lauren, Teacher Alex and Teacher Siphokazi hosted reading sessions in the library during the week. The children had a wonderful time listening to the stories. Afterwards they got to choose their favourite book for a fun photo! The library is open for you to pop into and enjoy too. Please do not hesitate to do so!

Books are important as Roald Dahl so wonderfully reminds us:

"So, please, oh please, we beg, we pray.
Go throw your TV set away,
and in its place, you can install,
a lovely Bookcase on the wall!"

"I really had a lot of dreams when I was a kid, and I think a great deal of that grew out of the fact that I had a chance to read a lot." – Bill Gates

Care Cause: Babies

During Term 2 we are focusing on our next Care Cause, being for the love of BABIES. We will collect items of need, for the **Heartlands Baby Sanctuary**, from 19 April to 4 June.

Below is a list of items they are constantly in need of:

- Eucerin aquaphor ointment
- Surgical gloves
- Aqueous cream
- Bennetts Bum cream
- Tissues
- Wet wipes
- Infacare 1 and Infacare 2
- Diapers - # 2 are in very high demand, PLUS prem, newborn #1, nr 4 nappies (no # 3)

Heartlands Baby Sanctuary is also in need of the following:

- 4 x small, plain as possible, pine beds and mattresses
- 1 x industrial mop and bucket
- 2 x air purifiers

Should you wish to make any donations, please send the items to school.

Fill the Piggy for a Kiddy

Heartlands Baby Sanctuary is also running the "**Fill the Piggy for a Kiddy**" campaign.

Just R 100.00 can buy 60 nappies or two tins milk formula or 10 meals

If you would like to have your own piggy bank, please ask Nikki on nikki@heartlandsbaby.org or call her on 021-852 3527.

For a complete 'Heartlands Wish list' featuring all the items needed, please contact the Castle.

Thank you for your ongoing care and support in our initiatives

Mother's Day Music Appreciation Morning

In honour of our Castle Moms, we hosted an event that ran over three days, with short, but oh so sweet pre-recorded mini-concerts which were posted on Hi Mama (by the Group 3s) and over Teams (by the Group 4's) on Wednesday and Thursday, respectively. The Stars were excited to sing and convey loving messages to their mothers.

On Friday, 7 May, we started the morning in celebratory fashion with very own, incredibly talented High School band, **'Late Lennon'**, serenading our parents as they arrived at the Castle.

The celebration continued for our Group 5 Mommies in the Mini Hall, where our 4–5-year-old Stars, along with their Music Appreciation Teacher, the accomplished Mr. Winston, treated them to a sneak peak of what they have been working on together during their weekly Music Appreciation classes – in preparation for a fuller production later in the year.

What a privilege it was to spend the morning with our marvelous Castle Moms and honour them through the gift of music!

Bronze Star proudly showing a picture of herself and her mom!

Green Stars wait patiently for their music session to begin...

Oranje Sterretjie stuur vir Mamma 'n liefdevol boodskap!

Blou Sterrejies sing en speel instrumente mooi saam met Meneer Winston!

Group 1

Our Group 1s had a busy few weeks. Both classes enjoyed the pleasure of Book Week. They were so intrigued by the stories read by teacher Sipho. There was a classroom full of curious eyes, watching, and sound listening going on.

Our Baby-Picasso event had our babies dressed for mess. *And yes, it was a mess! They thoroughly enjoyed getting messy - making marks*, rubbing them all around and smearing their little faces too!

Group 2

Sensory Day

This fantastic event was filled with so many amazing sensory activities.

Getting to know their senses was the main focus and each star delighted in the experience!

Fine motor strength was exercised and the expressions of enjoyment on faces was priceless!

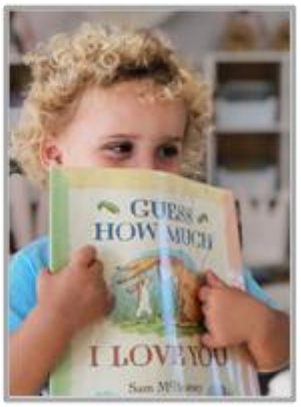
Well done **Bright Stars** and **Galaxy Stars** for partaking in these awesome activities!

Group 3

The Bronze Stars have thoroughly enjoyed embracing Mother's Day in all of its capable glory. They are so proud of their little Otees masterpieces, (though more Otees were eaten than pasted!). They have giggled and enjoyed looking at the photos of their moms and loved sharing their thoughts for Mother's Day.

From the Bronze stars class to all Moms: ***Happy Mother's Day! May you be blessed indeed.***

Die liefste Silwer-ster maatjies het storietyd vreeslik geniet en lekker geluister toe Juffrou Lauren vir hulle in die bibloteek gelees het. Storietyd is 'n groot voordeel vir die sterretjies se taal en woordeskat ontwikkeling. Dit help die sterretjies om aandagtig te luister, fokus en konsentreer wanneer hulle daarna luister.



Gedurende hierdie oefening leer die Silwerster-maatjies ruimtebewegings, grootmotoriese bewegings en balansering. Hierdie fisiese aktiwiteite help die sterretjies fisies ontwikkel en groei en versterk hulle konsentrasie en grootmotoriese spiere.

Climbing plays a key role in early childhood motor skills development. Climbing at a young age helps with spatial and directional awareness, and also boosts physical skills such as balance, eye, hand and foot coordination, and agility.

The Gold stars love bicycle riding.
Pedalling activates the leg muscles, building strength and muscle mass in the legs.
Cycling can also have a positive impact on your child's psychological health.

Group 4

The Group 4 Stars enjoyed experimenting with different art materials this week. They are becoming more creative and independent as the days go by. We as teachers are super proud of their development and will continue doing our best this term to help them to master designated skills. They are a strong group of stars. This term we will continue building on our relationships.

The Yellow Stars are showing off their artwork. They got their finger muscles working by squeezing their own glue onto their picture. We are becoming more aware of patterns around us; we used the pegboards to make one colour patterns and got all creative with playdough and different art materials. Go 4E1!

The Lime Stars got creative and turned boring old potatoes into beautiful bunnies. Their autumn art pieces were made with cotton buds and paint. Look at 4E2!

Die op-en-wakker Oranje Sterre het die dag begin met kernbalansoefeninge deur op en af op hulle hurke te gaan. Hulle het soos soos hasies *rondgespring en gemaak asof hulle voëls is. Hulle was almal ook* so gefokus op 'n sorteeraktiwiteit waar hulle verskillende sade in die regte houer moes plaas. Welgedaan 4A!

Group 5

Sjoe, as daar gepraat word van *avontuur*, dan is dit beslis **die Blou-Sterre**-Klas!

Dit is so 'n groot plesier en positiewe ervaring vir Juffrou Lizaan om elke dag 'n liefdesbrief van 'n Blou Sterretjie te ontvang. Smurfie-liefde bestaan uit drukkies, glimlaggies en sing en dans!

Die Blou Sterretjies is konstant besig om te ontwikkel en nuwe dinge aan te leer. Lettergrepe is hul nuutste hoogtepunt. Hulle leer groot woorde, soos *verdraagsaamheid* en *uithouvermoë*. Hierdie woorde word daagliks prakties uitgebeeld in hierdie klassie.

Blou Sterre sluit hulle week af met 'n pragtige sangitem spesiaal vir hul mammas.

Rainbow stars, Group 5E2 enjoying their outdoor free play with friends.

Rainbow stars, Group 5E2 Onndwela turned 5 on 4 May, Markus turned 5 on 29 April. Hip Hip Hooray, happy birthday.

Group 5

The **Green Stars** have been exercising their fine motor/pre-writing skills and engaging their senses during art. As part of their autumn creativity project they: painted a background with black tea; drew self-portraits; selected paper doll clothes according to the change of season and coloured them in the colours of their choice; and then cut-and-paste their compositions down.

The next step is to create a pattern with natural elements collected by the Stars for the week's Theme Discussion: acorns, autumn leaves, and twigs. Projects such as these demonstrate how integrated the pre-school curriculum is, incorporating learning areas such as Mathematics, Language and Learning about the World under our different themes.

Evacuation Drill

We executed an evacuation drill on the 19th of March as part of Curro Holdings' policy to ensure that timeous, well-coordinated plans of action exist in the event of a major incident or accident. Regular drills and exercises are conducted on, at least, a quarterly basis.

The evacuation drill was a huge success. Everybody reacted immediately and within minutes the different Groups exited the building. There were more than enough staff to carry the babies. Teacher Cyrilee acted as the sweeper, making sure that everybody left the building. At the assembly point Teachers kept their groups together and had to report if anybody was missing or injured. Our Estate Manager, Deon Greeff, oversaw the drill and was very pleased that the exercise went so smoothly.

Curro Castle Sitari Term Dates 2021

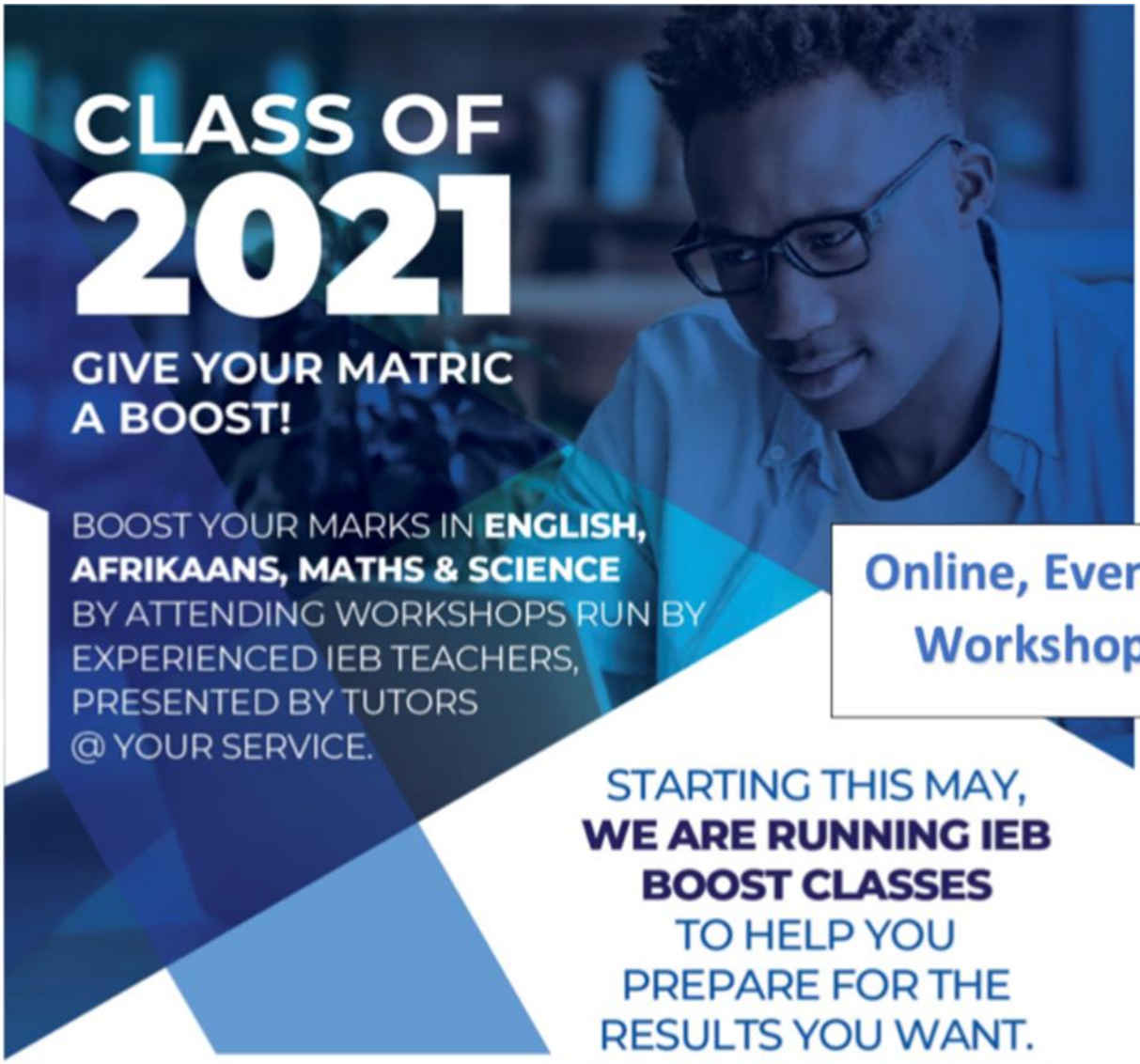
Term 1	11 January - 26 March 2021
Holiday Program	29 March - 12 April 2021
Term 2	13 April - 25 June 2021
Holiday Program	28 June - 19 July 2021
Term 3	20 July - 23 September 2021
Holiday Program	27 September - 08 October 2021
Term 4	11 October - 09 December 2021
Holiday Program	10 December - 15 December 2021

The Castle will be closed on the following days:

Wednesday, 16 June 2021 - Public Holiday
Monday, 12 August 2021 - Public Holiday
Friday, 24 September 2021 - Public Holiday

Dates to diarise

12 May 2021	Nurses Day
14 May 2021	International Day of Families
20 May 2021	World Bee Day (making honey waffles)
28 May 2021	Cappuccino Morning
28 May 2021	Bus Book Sale
4 June 2021	Final day for Care Cause Babies
11 June 2021	Father's Day event - Group 3-5
18 June 2021	Father's Day event - Group 1-2



COURSES

- COURSE 1: 10 IEB PRESCRIBED MATRIC POEMS AND
- COURSE 2: ASEM – PRESCRIBED IEB SET WORK
- PRESENTED OVER 5 X 90 MINUTE SESSIONS
- CLASSES ARE SMALL TO ENABLE INTERACTIVE TEACHING – PLEASE BOOK EARLY.

FACILITATOR FOR AFRIKAANS POETRY & ASEM:
MARILISE VAN ZYL
(BA)(LLB)(PGCE) ;
14 YEARS IEB TEACHING EXPERIENCE & SACE REGISTERED.

CONTACT US NOW FOR MORE INFORMATION:
MARILISE: 083 610 0278 | MANDY: 082 217 2077 | theresa@boostmatric.co.za

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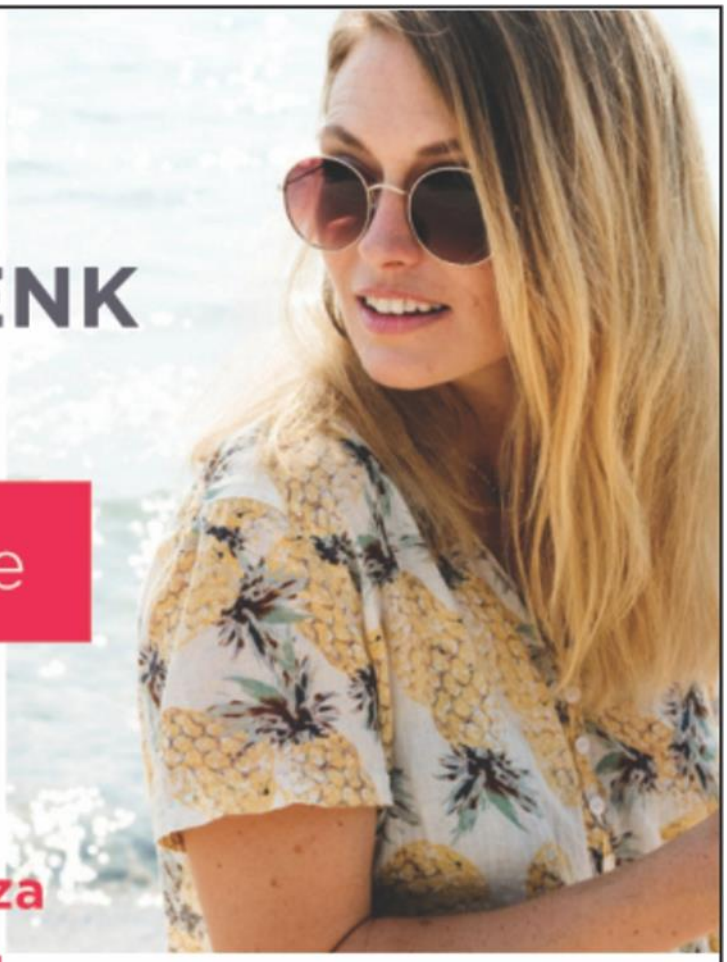

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