



ORANJEMUND PRIVATE SCHOOL
PRIMAATSKOOL ORANJEMUND
OSKOLA YUUMWENE ORANJEMUND
POBOX 11
ORANJEMUND
NAMIBIA
FAX No: +264 63 238188
TEL no: +264 63 238189
e-mail: reyno.nieuwoudt@namdeb.com

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have come to the end of yet another exciting and very busy term!

Staff:

Mr. Thinus Nel, newly appointed Deputy Principal: Head of the High School, assumed his duties during the May school holidays. We wish him and his wife Kitty all of the best for their future in Oranjemund.

Miss **Luzaan Coetzee** assumed her duties as a teacher at OPPS at the end of June 2014. She brings a wealth of experience from her previous position at Windhoek International School. We wish her all of the best at her alma-mater.

Mrs. **Lena Nanyemba** has resigned her position as Gr. 1 teacher and will not return to OPS. We are sad to lose her as a Gr. 1 teacher, but we wish her all of the best for her future in Windhoek.

We are very fortunate to be able to appoint **Miss Meaghan Rispel** in Mrs. Nanyemba's place. Miss Rispel is a well-qualified Junior Primary teacher. We wish her a happy future at OPS and in the JP-team. Miss Rispel will start her duties at the beginning of the next trimester.

The **OPS teachers** went on a **Mine Tour** during the Mid-term Break. It certainly was an enjoyable experience - and very informative.

Teachers from Gr. 0 and OPPS will attend a **Brain Gym** course in Rosh Pinah at the beginning of the school holiday.

Miss **Nadia Meyer** will be 'tying the knot' on 30 August. We wish her a blessed marriage and a bright future with her husband and family.

2nd Term Activities:

The **Grade 9** pupils travelled to **Aus** from 11 – 16 May for their annual outdoor excursion. The group really enjoyed what nature had to offer them and also being able to discover their own hidden strengths and talents.

A couple of **parents' work-shops and meeting** were held during this term. It is really very encouraging to see an increase in the parents' involvement in their children's school activities. We experienced that parents are making an effort to attend these meetings - in some cases, we registered a 100% attendance!

In our efforts to have our pupils exposed to as many **academic, sport and cultural activities** outside Oranjemund, we travelled to many different destinations during this term. The **rugby players** attended the National trials in Windhoek during the May school holidays, the **hockey players** attended the National Hockey Trials in Windhoek, the **netball players** attended the Regional and National Trials in Keetmanshoop and in Windhoek respectively, the **Primary School Spelling Bee Team** went to the Regional Championships in Keetmanshoop, the **badminton players** from the Oranjemund Badminton Club travelled to Bloemfontein and Durban for the different South African age group Championships, the **OPS Squash Team** travelled to Upington and our Senior soccer, hockey and tennis travelled to Windhoek for the Windhoek Gymnasium Sports Day.

OPS hosted a **Winter Sports Day** in July with 7 schools in attendance. Soccer, netball, hockey and rugby were played and the crowds were entertained by good sportsmanship and organization throughout the day. Thank you to Mr. Tripodi and the contingent of coaches, referees, 1st aiders and helpers for making this a day to remember.

Further, to established traditions, the annual **Primary School Cross Country** was held on Friday, 27 June. Rhodes won, with Oppenheimer 2nd and Barnato 3rd.

The **Internal Science Fair** was held on 30 May and 13 pupils were selected to represent OPS at the Regional Science Fair in Keetmanshoop. The group returned with two shields for Best Junior Primary and Best Senior Secondary School. We wish them well with their preparations for Nationals.

The **UNISA Theory music examinations** were also conducted during June. Good luck for the practical examinations coming up during the 3rd trimester. **Puppet Shows** were offered to the junior primary pupils, Gr. 4 had a **Beach Walk**, Gr. 0 and Gr. 2 visited the **airport**, OPPS held a movie afternoon and the High School hosted two **entrepreneurial days**.

The OPS Primary School's **Environmental Club** received a huge sponsorship and is assisted by Namdeb's Environmental Section with a project at Swartkops. We are certainly looking forward to the developments in this regard.

Namdeb professionals, in conjunction with Namdeb's Training & Development Department, hosted several **information sessions** with the Gr. 12 pupils. The aim of these sessions was to expose the pupils to different study fields and opportunities after Gr. 12.

Grade 12 pupils attended a 'winter school' during the Mid-term Break to assist in preparations for the upcoming examinations.

UNAM's Accountancy Department visited OPS on 3 July to recruit pupils for this field of study. The **NSFAF** (Namibian Student Financial Assistance Fund) also visited OPS to offer financial assistance to deserving applicants wishing to further their studies after GR. 12. The **Department of Home Affairs** also visited OPS to assist all the pupils older than 16 years of age to obtain their Namibian Identity Documents.

Thank you to everyone who supported the **Gr. 11 fundraising efforts**. The final draw will take place on 13 August at 18:00 in the school hall. The Gr. 11 pupils are hosting the 2nd OPS **Gr.12 Farwell** on the first Friday next trimester. We wish the Grade 12's good luck and we are looking forward to this event.

Parents are reminded about the **communication channels** existing at the school. Messages may be relayed through means of the homework book. Serious and personal matters could be raised with the class teacher/deputies/principal through a letter or an appointment.

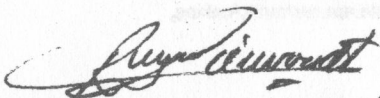
The SMC decided that the **school fees for 2015 will not be increased**. Drawing up the draft budget for 2015 was certainly a challenge and we are waiting the approval of this effort. Anna-Lisa Conry is thanked for her support and assistance in drafting this budget for 2015.

We wish everyone a pleasant holiday. The **Gr. 10 & 12 pupils** are encouraged to use the holidays to prepare and equip themselves for their final examinations early next term.

The school re-opens on **Tuesday, 2 September 2014** for the 3rd term. Please ensure that your child/children are at school from the 1st day, next term. **We don't want your children to start school late**. Make arrangements for the pupils who will be travelling by bus to arrive not later than Monday, 1 September 2014.

Thank you for the support and assistance we receive from you in so many ways. We cannot do this important task without the network of parents assisting us everywhere! Thanks!

Best wishes,



Reyno Nieuwoudt
Principal