



Waldorf School Windhoek

# w-mail

Newsletter Waldorf School Windhoek, [www.waldorf-namibia.org](http://www.waldorf-namibia.org)

## February 2013

Obituary of Dr. Abraham Iyambo, Minister of Education // Fact Finding Mission “Pilot Project to Implement Vocation Education and Training at Schools”



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### Welcome Grade 1

We welcome Margit Anzlinger our new grade 1 class teacher and all 24 learners and their parents.

### New School Partnership: Hibernia School, Germany



One of the outcomes of our Fact Finding Mission IVT was the new partnership with the Hibernia School in Herne. Willi Hettrich, highly experienced Hibernia teacher is coming to our school during his sabbatical for two months (18.2.–5.4.2013). He visit is the start of an exchange program between the Waldorf

School Windhoek and the Hibernia School. With his experience he will help us to lay the foundation of our pre-vocational training program (grade 7–10). Parents and association members are invited to a presentation about the outcomes of the Germany trip and the latest developments very soon. We haven't set a date yet.



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## House Building Grade 3: A Gift for the Pre-Primary School

The building mainlesson is perfect to round off the grade 3 school year as it contains lots of known elements of the previous lessons (basic professions, measuring...). It is the class teacher's task to find out by “listening” to what is most suitable for the school community and the children of the class. After all, a building is something which shapes the entire school image as well as the self-confidence of the participating learners. The decision was taken for a “sensory path” on the pre-primary ground. Thanks to the size and diversity of the project

all children were able to participate actively: from measuring the path, to shovelling out the soil; from building the boundary to the filling of the path sections with different elements like wooden plates, pebbles, sand, seed pods and water. Besides the practical work the children were able to experience the necessity of the cooperation of all participants to achieve the aim well and nicely.

A big thank you goes to Simeon who tirelessly and patiently supported single learner groups. What fun had the grade 3 learners had guiding parents, all primary

school learners, teachers and staff members blindfolded along the sensory path up to the refreshing water during the celebratory



festival. At this festival Hans-Peter Seeger congratulated the grade 3 learners. We are proud that the school has now a unique feature to give the children of our pre-primary the opportunity to explore their feet and senses.



## Trimester Festival and Sports Field Pledge Marathon ..... December 2012



The Trimester Festival held on Saturday 17th November 2012. Classes gave short presentations of their work on stage. After that a “get together” followed. This event, organized by parents and teachers, was definitely worthwhile. Besides the laden cake buffet various activities took place. In the centre of all was the fundraising action for our new sports facilities. Single square meters could

be bought and whoever made a donation received an “I’m a proud sponsor” sticker. “We managed to get closer to our goal, but everything is not covered yet” said Golda Gurirab, sports teacher of WSW. We request the parent community and all friends and supporters to stay active and get as many sponsorships as possible. For more info see [www.waldorf-namibia.org](http://www.waldorf-namibia.org)

## Simone de Picciotto and “Erziehungskunst”



We welcome Simone de Picciotto as a new member of the board of trustees. Here you see her already in action. She visited Mathias Maurer, chief editor of “Erziehungskunst” to talk about the pilot project and the outcomes of the Fact Finding Mission. The magazine “Erziehungskunst” is now available online in English Language. Erziehungskunst is the leading information platform for Waldorf education in Germany (72,000 copies). The English online edition has the potential to develop into an international platform for Waldorf education, providing information and inspiration in equal measure for teachers, parents and pupils. ..... [www.erziehungskunst.de/en](http://www.erziehungskunst.de/en)



## Sports Field Development ..... Now in action!

We welcome Reinhard Berger as from February. He is employed as the project manager for the next three months to push the school ground development. First step will be the leveling of the fire ground, second step: installing of the fire hydrant system, third step: realizing of two sports fields (beach volleyball and oval gras field).

Please note: We are looking forward to continue with our strong parental support in this matter. All learners are looking forward to this development.



## Dr. Abraham Lyambo, Minister of Education, 52, died on the 2nd of February 2013

Dr. Abraham Lyambo, Minister of Education died suddenly on his 52nd birthday whilst in London for an Education Conference.

We are greatly saddened at the loss of this inspiring and dedicated personality who made such a profound impression on our learners and teachers when visited our school in July 2011. Dr. Lyambo's commitment to reforming education in Namibia was unfailing and his innovative ways to make contact and visit schools shared his wonderful sense of humour and his creative flair.

### His visit in 2011 (w-mail 08/2011):

We are very proud, that our Minister of Education came to visit us the first time on the 21 July 2011. His speech in our hall touched all of us.



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Dr. Abraham Lyambo: *"This school is beautiful. It is a truly Namibian school. The best student of Namibia\* comes from this school. Now, I could see myself where he is coming from and what the other learners are doing her.*

*We want Germany to assist us. Our colleagues from Germany – I'm very happy to see you. My dream for Namibia is, to build up the vocational training. We have no option, no choice. We have a high rate of unemployed people. So we must start in the primary level. Not only at the end. People that build up countries, are those with the best vocational education.*

*This school is unique in Namibia. You start with this beautiful school. Let's continue. If children love their teachers, then they learn quickly. This is what I just experienced in your grade 1. That is what Namibia needs: Teachers who love their children, children who love their teachers. You can be proud, to be learner of this school. You can walk with a proud breast through Windhoek.*

*Thank you for making Namibia proud. What a beauty, your eyes are sparkling. And I promise to come back, but next time I'll just come as a surprise. God bless you."*

\* Harald Hanke, Klasse 12, Gewinner des nationalen Essay-Wettbewerbs 2011 in Namibia



## The Senses

9h00	Welcome and introduction
9h30	Development of the Senses
11h00	Tea break
11h30	Over and under stimulation and Eurythmy
13h00	Lunch
14h30	Doorways to the soul and the world around with Eurythmy

**For teachers, parents and all interested people.**

**Sat 9 February 2013**  
**Time: 9h00-16h00**  
 Waldorf School Windhoek,  
 Andries de Wet Street, Avis  
 Windhoek, Tel. 061 41 52 50  
**Fee: 100 NAD incl. tea and lunch**  
**Bookings by Friday 8th 10h00 at the School office.**

**The Senses – Seminar with Joan Sleigh and Christiane Ree-Ahlenstorf, 9 February 2013**

Joan will present a lecture at the Green Market on 16 February. She will also be working with the teachers during her stay (8.–20. February 2013).

# Fact Finding Mission on “Pilot Project to Implement Vocational Education and Training in Schools”: 10.–16.1.2013

The planning and preparation of the Pilot Project to Implement Vocational Education and Training in Schools which is spear headed by the Waldorf School Windhoek (WSW) and the National Institute for Educational Development (NIED), is in good progress. NIED and WSW met with key stakeholders recently and received positive feedback and commitment from them.

Phase one of the project will begin in 2013. It is upon the above-mentioned intertwined interaction and development that the Board of Trustees and friends of the WSW invited the Minister and a delegation of the Ministry of Education and the University of Namibia and our School Board to Germany from the 10–16 January 2013.



Hibernia school: vocational training workshops

The fact finding mission’s purpose was to obtain first-hand information about the implementation of integrated vocational training in German schools which is valuable information for the planning, preparation and implementation of the pilot project on vocational education and training at the Waldorf School Windhoek and in Namibian schools.

The delegation was introduced to two well-established German I’VET Waldorf Schools; Waldorf School Kassel ([www.waldorfschule-kassel.de](http://www.waldorfschule-kassel.de)) and Hibernia School ([www.hibernia-schule.de](http://www.hibernia-schule.de)) as well as the Freie Schule Anne-Sophie ([www.freie-schule-anne-sophie.de](http://www.freie-schule-anne-sophie.de)), which Bettina Würth founded in Künzelsau/ Germany and which has a pedagogic orientation very close to the Waldorf concept.

We could establish a partnership between University of Namibia and the University Flensburg. A letter of intent was signed by the two representatives Dr. Wolfgang Schulz (Univ. Flensburg) and Akiser Pomuti (Representative of the University of Namibia).

On Saturday the 12th of January the Board of Trustees met with the new School Board of the Waldorf School Windhoek and delegates of the Ministry of Education and of the University of Namibia. On Sunday the 13th of January a presentation about the pilot project to implement Vocational Education and Training at school was held in the Hotel Anna-Sophie in Künzelsau. Various guests were invited and were introduced to the concept from the view of the Waldorf School Windhoek, Ministry of Education, !Namibian Training Authority and the University of Namibia. All of them had the core intention of how vocational aspects could be implemented in the education system in Namibia to avoid a pure academical approach.

A summary one of the delegation members made was: we came as a delegation and left as a team. The following outcomes:

1) The school will write an application to the Ministry of Education for future, teacher salary support.

2) A strong partnership to the Hibernia School in Germany is on the way and already in the first trimester three teachers will come for many weeks to train our learners, teachers and selected government representatives in how to establish pre-vocational courses (building facilities, equipment, curriculum, methodology, didactics). They come from a 60year experience in a pre-vocational and vocational background in a Waldorf school.

3) After the trip several meetings took place with UCCB (University Central Consultancy Buerau) to enter into a business consultation.

Contact to our W-Mail-Team: [wyss@milch-berlin.de](mailto:wyss@milch-berlin.de)



The delegation (left to right): Mr Hans-Peter Seeger, Executive Manager WSW; Mattheus Shikongo, Chairperson Schoolboard WSW; Frieder Münz; Hileni Amukana, Inspector of Education: NTA; Benjamin Tjivambi, Parent Schoolboard WSW; Maria Nangolo-Rukoro, CEO: NTA; Winfried Leitner, Consultant UCCB/UNAM; Dr. Ramon Leyendecker; Dr Hertha Pomuti, Director: NIED; Gwendal Maded, Parents Association representative WSW; Simone de Picciotto, Kuratorium; Mr Andreas Fellner, Parent Schoolboard WSW; Kathi Damon, Principal Primary School WSW; Allan le Hane, Parent Schoolboard WSW; Dr. Konrad Schily; Mr Werner Hammerslacht, Principal High School WSW; Akiser Pomuti, Director UCCB/UNAM

## Bereavements

We sadly announce the untimely death of ex-colleague Doreen Kaulinge who passed away in Swakopmund just before Christmas. We offer our thoughts and prayers to her daughter Sabrina who was a learner here and all family and friends who mourn her passing.

We offer our condolences to Boyd Kakonga, Gardening teacher, whose girlfriend, Silvia Moshosho, died suddenly just before Christmas.

Just before the School Board left for Germany, Thomas Lombardt’s mother slipped into a coma and passed away. We extend our condolences to him and his family.

Our hearts also go out to the Freyer family on the passing of Vera’s father. The Freyers were founding parents and their three sons were learners here.

## Keep in Contact:

### Waldorf School Windhoek

P.O. Box 90326, Windhoek, Namibia  
Andries de Wet Street/Avis  
Tel. +264 (0)61 41 52-50, Fax +264 (0)61 41 52-99

office@waldorf-namibia.org  
Web: [www.waldorf-namibia.org](http://www.waldorf-namibia.org)  
Blog (german): [www.wsw-connect.org](http://www.wsw-connect.org)

**Namibia:** Waldorf School Windhoek  
Nedbank Namibia, Hidas Windhoek  
Branch-Code 461696, Account: 110 000 826 88

**Germany:** Freunde der Erziehungskunst, GLS Bank  
Account: 130 420 10, BLZ 430 609 67

More about our partners in  
Switzerland and the Netherlands →  
[www.waldorf-namibia.org](http://www.waldorf-namibia.org)

## Events February/March 2013

- **Parents Evening**  
*Mon, 4 February, Grade 8, 19h00*
- **Parents & Teachers Seminar with Joan Sleigh, Theme: The Senses**  
*Sat, 9 February, 9h00-16h00*
- **Parents Evening**  
*Mon, 11 February, Grade 2, 4, 19h00*
- **Sports Festival**  
*Sat, 16 February, 7h30-13h00*
- **Parents Evening**  
*Mon, 18 February, Grade 1, 7, 19h00*
- **Parents Evening**  
*Wed, 20 Febr., Afternoon Care 17h15*
- **Midterm Break**  
*Fri 1 March, 13h00 – reopens  
Mon 11 March, 7h10*
- **Parents Evening**  
*Mon, 18 March, Grade 5, 19h00*
- **Independence Day**  
*Thu, 21 March, no school*