

JUNE 2020 ISSUE NO. 18

# IN THE LOOP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CRAWFORD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

## LEARNING AND LIVING THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR	1
HOW TO BE A GOOD ONLINE STUDENT	7
INVITATION TO VIRTUAL GRADUATION	8
AND THE BEAT GOES ON... PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS	9
YEAR 5 STUDENTS SHINE THROUGH ONLINE LEARNING	11
LIVING THINGS	15



# MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

*By Jenny Coetzee*

Dear Parents and Guardians

Every situation in life, whether negative or positive, provides an opportunity for growth. During this Covid 19 lockdown period I have learnt many lessons regarding relationships and felt moved to write this article which has been published in various publications, both print and online. It is a topic close to my heart and I would like to share it with you.

## **LOCKDOWN LEARNING HERALDS NEW ERA FOR SCHOOL-PARENT-STUDENT PARTNERSHIPS**

Our definition of normal education has forever been transformed. It is apparent that learning in future will incorporate a blended model – a hybrid of classroom and online. We don't know the trajectory of our current challenge - Covid-19 – which could be defeated in months, or years' time. There is a high chance this pandemic could be replaced by some other unforeseen local or global emergency. Therefore, we need to be prepared and ready to build on independent learning and resilient teaching models in this fast-changing and unpredictable world.

Our children's education ought not be suspended each time we are faced with turmoil and uncertainty. Experts predict this will be the norm rather than the deviation in years to come. As the ship begins to stabilise in the previously uncharted waters of lockdown-mandated distance learning for thousands of parents and students, a silver lining has presented itself: the opportunity for a renewed trust and working relationship between parents, students and schools.

Until recently, education started when a student entered school gates and was, for the most part, the sole responsibility of the school and educators. What the experience of these past two months has shown us, is that there is much strength and value to be found in the development of a cooperative



## ... cont'd message from the Managing Director

and trusting relationship between schools, parents and students. The famous quote by leading global education policy expert Judith Billings could not be more true:

***"Children are the priority. Change is the reality. Collaboration is the strategy."***

The transition from contact learning to distance and online education was initially a challenge for parents and students, but that the focus can now turn towards the future as families are starting to adapt and adjust. During the last few weeks, we have witnessed much growth and joy as children, parents and teachers engaged in online learning. While this mode of teaching and learning is different from the face to face interaction, many schools have been able to continue with the curriculum because of the support of parents and the enthusiasm and dedication of teachers and students in the virtual classroom.

Besides working towards the set goals of the curriculum, we also saw the emergence of exciting new levels of communication, collaboration, digital learning, computing development, critical thinking and creativity. These are all 21st Century Competencies which our youth are required to master in preparation for the jobs of the future.

This is a pivotal moment where the triangular relationship of student, teacher and parent could be nurtured to the benefit of every child's educational journey. Initially, some parents considered 'opting out' of online schooling as we wait to return to learning at school campuses. As time went by, more parents realized that this could be detrimental to their child(ren)'s educational journey.

The digital landscape is firmly settling into our way of life. Learning in future will incorporate a blended model – a hybrid of classroom and online. When parents research institutions and methods of learning for their

## **... cont'd message from the Managing Director**

child(ren)'s educational journey, they are faced with adding a new criteria - choosing schools shown to be resilient, adaptable and able to deliver despite challenges. When children see and believe that their parents have confidence in the chosen educational path, they can have the confidence and discipline to do the work and internalise the learning regardless of externalities or changes in delivery methods.

The importance of building long-term relationships and supporting each other can't be stressed enough in this environment. The decision to transfer a child is very important as it has the potential to create lasting negative consequences to the child's social life and educational journey. I encourage parents to feel confident that their chosen school's curriculum will open as many doors as possible for their child, that the values of the school reflect their own, and that they are happy with the quality of the offering in terms of academic excellence. With so much upheaval all around us, we need to build layers of trust, respect and community; these can pave the way for a better world for our children and future generations.

Being locked down in South Africa with my closest family has given me much thinking time. I have a 9-month old grandchild and I would only wish the best for her. I have thought of our Crawford parents during this time knowing that they would want the same for their children. I therefore thank the many parents for their support and commitment to the school. Your relationship is valued and appreciated.

It is unfortunate that a small group of parents petitioned the school to court over the two issues which were discussed in our letters on 6 and 8 May namely:

- discount for school fees as a result of online learning
- the establishment of a PTA – this was resolved through the correspondence in the above-mentioned letters

Whilst I respect the decision of these parents to do so, my focus is on the school, our staff and most importantly, our children and their family's



## ... cont'd message from the Managing Director

welfare. We will inform you of the outcome once we have a ruling on the court case

We are already far into our planning stage for the new academic year. We will be sending letters regarding the 2020/2021 academic year. Please look out for these letters and respond, if required, within the timeframe. It would assist us greatly.

President Uhuru Kenyatta recently announced the opening of schools in September. We still await final instructions on back-to-school safety protocols. In the meantime, we are using the protocols set forth by the World Health Organisation. We will communicate these protocols once they have been confirmed by the Kenyan Education Department.

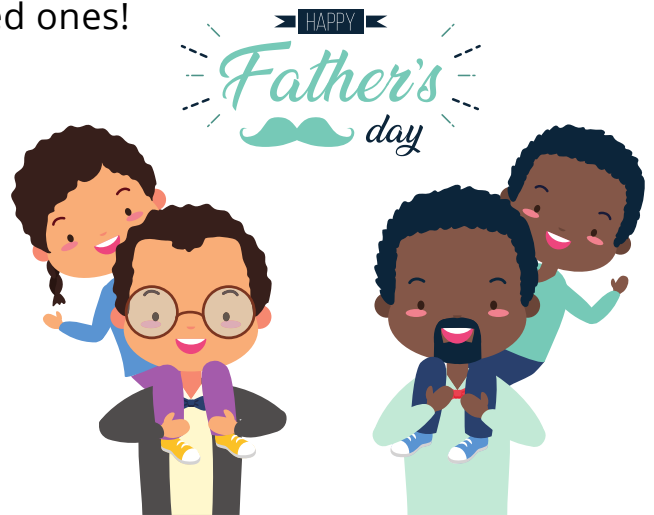
The Advtech schools have opened in a phased approach in South Africa and the teaching is going well despite social distancing and a blended model of online and physical teaching. Our teachers have already been trained on live-streaming in preparation for the return to school.

One of our highlights in the next few weeks will be our digital graduations. The first one is this week on **Friday 26 June at 8:30am**. We would love for entire school to attend that ceremony. We are exceptionally proud of our first IGCSE graduating class! Lesson times will be adjusted as a result of this ceremony. We will inform you of the dates for your children's virtual graduation sessions.

Lastly, I wish all our Crawford fathers a wonderful Father's Day on Sunday. May you be thoroughly spoilt by your loved ones!

Be blessed and stay safe!  
Yours sincerely

Jenny Coetzee  
Managing Director





CRAWFORD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

# HOW TO BE A GOOD ONLINE STUDENT

**IT'S A LOT EASIER THAN IT LOOKS! JUST  
FOLLOW THESE TIPS EVERY DAY**



Come to class on time  
Fill the attendance registration form  
Remember your ABC - Always Be Courteous  
Study and do your homework

YOU CAN TALK TO YOUR TEACHER ANY TIME ABOUT THESE!  
READ THE COMPLETE OFFICIAL GUIDELINE BY [CLICKING HERE](#)







**CRAWFORD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

# **VIRTUAL** *Graduation* **CEREMONY**

Commencement  
address by  
Jaco Lotz  
ADvTECH's  
International  
Business  
Development  
Executive

**Celebrating Our Pioneer  
IGCSE/O-Level Graduating Class**

Friday, June 26, 2020 | 08:30 AM - 10:00 AM  
Live-stream on MS Teams and Facebook

**A sneak peak at our prerecorded student visits:**



**Join in on the celebration with red balloons #CrawfordGrad**





# This is the Perfect Time to Nurture Your Love of Music

Contact a CIS Music Teacher for Private Lessons



**Mr. Eric**

Drums and Piano  
0727041450  
omarierick0@gmail.com



**Ms. Jacque**

Voice Coach  
0725468002  
talentomanosi@gmail.com



**Mr. Jeremiah**

Violin and Piano  
0719679649  
jeremiahnyangena@gmail.com



**Ms. Tunu**

Guitar  
0704189081  
tunuziro@gmail.com



**Mr. Azariah**

Piano  
0716041323  
azachkip@gmail.com





**Crawford**

International School

# ART FOR CHANGE

AN ART COMPETITION TO RAISE AWARENESS ON  
MARINE LIFE SO WE CAN BETTER #PROTECT OUR HOME

---

USE RECYCLED OR  
ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY  
MATERIAL

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS JUNE 25, 2020**

EMAIL SUBMISSIONS TO MS. KANUPRIYA AT  
**KPAWAR@CRAWFORDINTERNATIONALSCHOOL.COM**



**World  
Oceans  
Day**

**TAKE  
Action!**

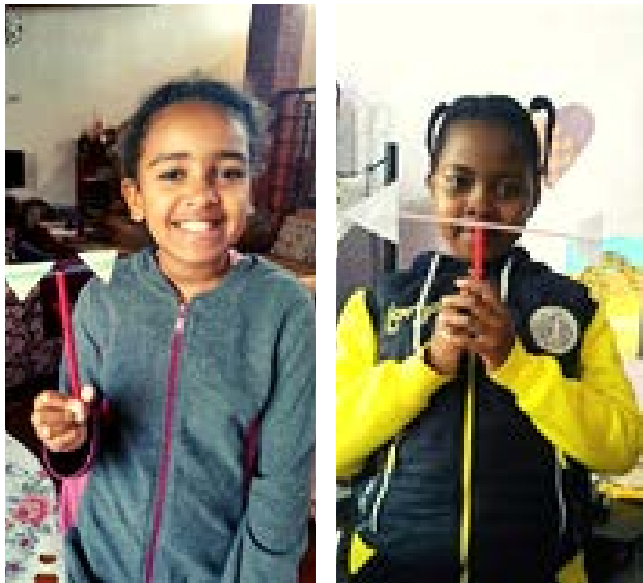
CLICK HERE TO SIGN  
THE PETITION



## Year 5 Students Shine through Online Learning

by Ms. Shelly James and Ms. Carol Gimei

The Year 5 children have shown great creativity in their online lessons. They were given a few tasks where they had to represent what they had learnt using items found around the house, sometimes they were given instructions and other times they came up with their own creation, we are very proud of their enthusiasm and their beautiful creations.



Windvanes by Saoirse Lenehan left, and Joy Wanyoike, right.

In Science they had to show the rotation and revolution of the Earth around the Sun and the Moon around the Earth. In Geography they learned about wind and were tasked to create a wind vane.



Windvane by Michael Mukora



Windsock by Colleen Githere

We also had some lovely advertisements from our English lessons.



Doughnut Advertisement by Ava Mutheee





Revolution and orbit by Onyx Luzitu



Sun, Earth and Moon by Jasmine Mutuma



The Sun, Earth and Moon by Atieno Maina



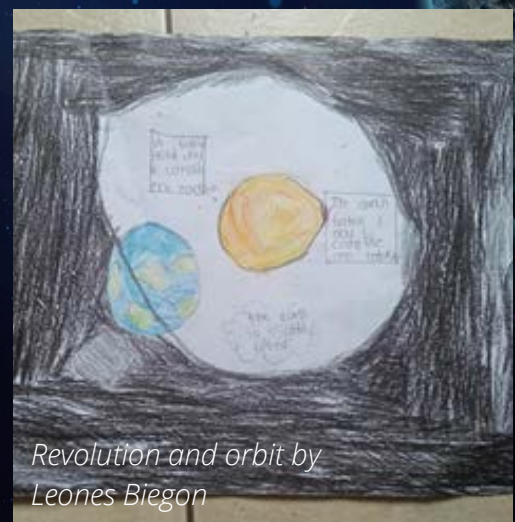
The Sun, Earth and Moon by Jelani Ndegwa



The Earth revolves around the Sun by Colleen Githere



The Sun, Earth and Moon by Natasha Kuria



Revolution and orbit by Leones Biegion

# Planets Mnemonic by Amani Davis



## Planets Mnemonic

A mnemonic is a way of remembering something. We can make a sentence out of the first letter of each word in a sequence to help us remember it.

For example, we can remember how to spell 'because' by remembering the mnemonic: **B**ig **E**lephants **C**an **A**lways **U**nderstand **S**mall **E**lephants.

**On the lines below, create a mnemonic to remember the order of the planets.**



M



V



E



M



J



S



U



N



# **Earth RAP by Kagwiria Kithinji**

My name is earth, I rotate on an axis.  
I'm the only planet that has oxygen when I say  
rotate you say day, rotate, day, rotate, day.

I rotate around the sun while spinning  
spinning spinning, I'm the third planet in the  
solar system did I mention I'm the only planet  
with oxygen.

The atmosphere on top of me, has five, five  
five layers starting with the troposphere, then  
the stratosphere, the mesosphere, the  
thermosphere, the ionosphere and last but  
not least the exosphere.

The moon is round and so am I, the moon  
rotates for different phases.



# Living Things

by Ms. Fridah Moli

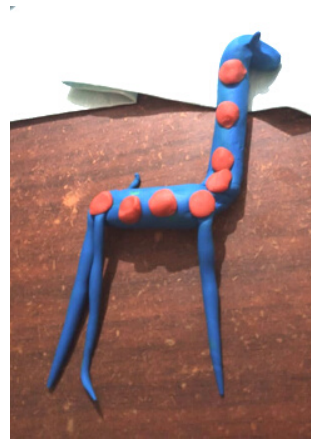


While exploring the world around us, the KG1s have been studying about living and nonliving things while the KG2s have been exploring the concept of events and sequences.

We merged the two study areas and came up with one exciting study! The students explored several characteristics of living things namely- they eat, breathe, grow and have feelings. Bingo! That is why sometimes we are happy, sad, bored, excited and curious.



Playdough Giraffe by Njoroge left, and Bird Drawing by Sylvia, right.



Playdough Giraffes by Ms. Fridah, left, and Oliver posing with his, right.

We created an event about Living things! Planted seeds and kept a journal to record the sequence of events. Some students planted beans, others corn, some cowpeas, others lentils. We noted the sequence in planting:

1. Assemble seeds, tins, loam soil, manure and water.
2. Mix soil and manure then add seeds, cover with some more soil.
3. Pour enough water then keep the pot/ tin in an open space.



Giovanni about to plant seeds, left and Aren holds his growing plant, right.

Everyday has been exciting with the learners discovering new developments

on their seedlings and learning to care for plants. We have acquired many giant words such as germination, sprouts, seedlings, photosynthesis and many more.



*Plants grown by Hannah Alena, top left, Liam, top right, Koome, bottom left and Hope, bottom right.*

Our power to create and invent has not been left out! We invented non-living pets by painting pebbles into beautiful animals. Therefore, in our KG class we keep lions, cats, tigers, dogs, giraffes, gorillas, dinosaurs and hippos!

*Non living pet creations on right: 1.Njoroge 2.Gift 3.Raquel 4.Giovanni 5.Favor 6.Prince 7.Marie 8.Sylvia*

## Non Living Pets







*Models of living things using playdough, clockwise from left: Pink Cat by Marie, Blue Flower by Gift, Reddish Brown Flower by Marie, Trees by Giovanni, Green Tiger by Favor, Blue Flower that looks like a fish by Prince, Blue Dog by Prince, Pink and Purple Flower by Giovanni, Yellow Cat by Hope and Green Dinosaur by Koome*