

NAIS TIMES

NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome Back!

New Staff &
Important Dates

New Students

Exams

NAIS IMPACT Program

NAIS Kids

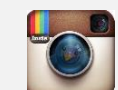
NAIS in Photos



[NAIS Website](#)



**Download your QR
Code scanner on**



Welcome Back!

Dear NAIS Families,

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer break. I also hope you are relaxed, recharged and ready to start a new semester. I am so delighted that you are part of our amazing learning community. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I once again look forward to working with you and your children during this second semester.

All signs point to another incredible and productive semester. Our skilled and devoted staff have hit the ground running since the return of all our students. Our enthusiastic admin head, Anne Strauss has been busy registering new families, ordering needed materials and updating student files. Our hard working and conscientious custodians continue to ensure that the school is thoroughly cleaned. We are indeed a joyous and caring community with the common goals of nurturing responsible, caring students and promoting high-level learning.

Grant Tate

Director of the North American International School

New Staff

Each semester brings positive change.

This includes a new addition to our staff.

We are delighted to welcome Ms. Natasha Mienie, our remedial and special needs education expert.

Natasha brings a solid skill set and a gentle, sensitive approach to meeting children's educational needs.



Natasha

Important Dates & Birthdays for February

29 Jan-5 Feb : Exams

14 Feb: Friendship Day

17 Feb: President's Day
(no school)



20 Feb: Mrs Trudie van Wyk

26 Feb: School photo day –
more information to follow.

28 Feb: TBC – Sports Day



Education is the key
to success in life, and
teachers make a
lasting impact in the
lives of their students.

– Solomon Ortiz

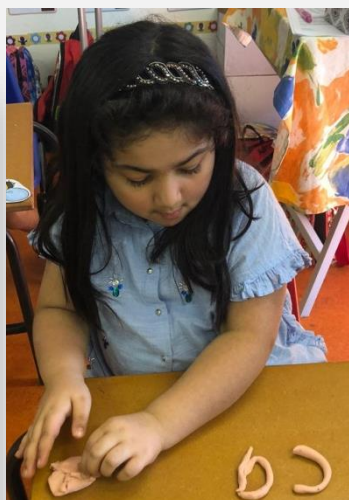
The NAIS Times is for the use of all NAIS students, families and staff. Please send news contributions and suggestions via email to annestrauss@nais.co.za. All items for submission must be emailed by the last Monday of each month.



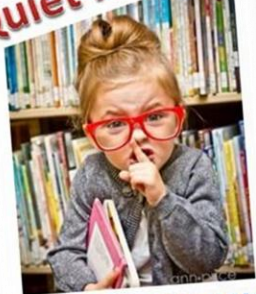
New Students

All of our staff work hard to make school a positive experience for all students. NAIS is eagerly looking forward to enriching your child's life. Thank you for understanding that it can take a few weeks for a child to acclimate to a new grade, peer group and teacher.

Thank you to all who are helping prepare for the new semester. Your commitment to ensuring that NAIS remains a celebrated and successful school is awe-inspiring. It remains an honor and privilege to serve as your principal. Please stop by and say hello. Together, I know we will make this semester one of growth and achievement for all children.



Quiet Please!



WE ARE TESTING

**“THERES
NO ELEVATOR
TO SUCCESS.
YOU HAVE
TO TAKE
THE STAIRS.”**

**TRUST
YOURSELF,
YOU KNOW
MORE THAN
YOU THINK
YOU DO.
—DR. SPOCK—**

EXAMS – Are they necessary?

For many students, exams seem a necessary evil. Time-consuming yet inevitable. But are exams really necessary? And are they evil?

It has been suggested that exams fail to develop “questioning, self-sufficient learners”. Critics also often argue that exams promote a superficial understanding of topics, and that they are inauthentic: that is, they fail to represent the kinds of things students will be asked to do “in the real world”.

However, this is taking a narrow view of the benefits of exams. Exams include many of the aspects we want from assessment.

Rather than abolishing exams, we should instead be asking what mix of assessment tasks is most appropriate for each subject. Where might exams fit? And what are their benefits?

So, what are the benefits?

Exams enable us to accurately test students’ breadth of understanding of topics taught.

Where breadth of knowledge is important, we want assessment tasks that target this breadth. We want our future doctors to know of the entire human body. We want our future teachers to know a full repertoire of teaching and learning approaches. Exams can help achieve this.

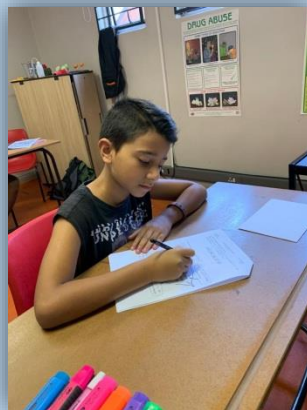
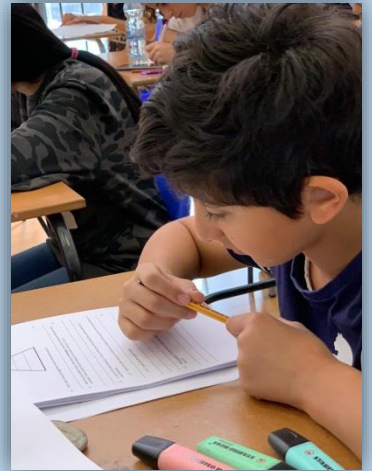
Exams enhance learning. There is evidence that both studying for and sitting exams deepens learning.

And finally, exams don’t just provide a targeted, fit-for-purpose opportunity for students to demonstrate what they know: they also have the power to enhance what students know.

Exam Time

Why we write exams?

- exams enable us to accurately test students breadth of understanding for topics taught.
- studying and sitting for exams deepens learning
- exams have the power to enhance what students know



NAIS IMPACT Program (Special needs)

NAIS IMPACT Program is an educational program for students with disabilities, it takes into consideration the students individual educational needs, which aims at the full development of their capabilities and at their independence and social participation.



The program is carried out in various forms, including remedial classes, adapted physical education sessions, occupational and speech therapy, as well as regular mainstream classes.



NAIS KIDS

Here at the North American International School,
in Menlo Park, Pretoria, we adopt the
Reggio Emilia Approach as a method of
“instruction” implemented by our
NAIS KIDS, ages 2-4 years.

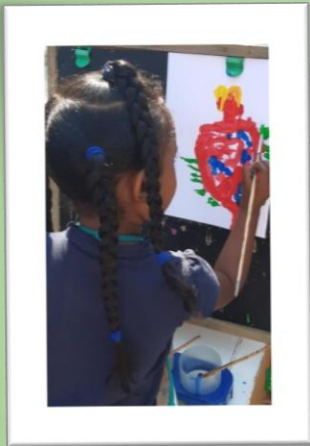
Reggio Emilia approach is a pedagogy
described as student-centered,
experiential learning in relationship
driven environments.

This approach is demonstrated through our pictures.



NAIS KIDS

Read aloud day - The class made their own little books.



Grade 3



*Sebaa & Carla in Gr. 3 got rewarded
with a Pen License because they
write so beautifully.*

Well done girls!



Grade 4



The Gr. 4 learners made Ms. Bianca Erasmus beautiful cards to congratulate her on her 10 year Teacher Anniversary.

Learners learning about the importance of good posture when sitting at a desk or in front of a laptop, standing, laying down, and walking. This photo is an example of bad posture. The learners quickly realized that they struggle to concentrate and they got tired.



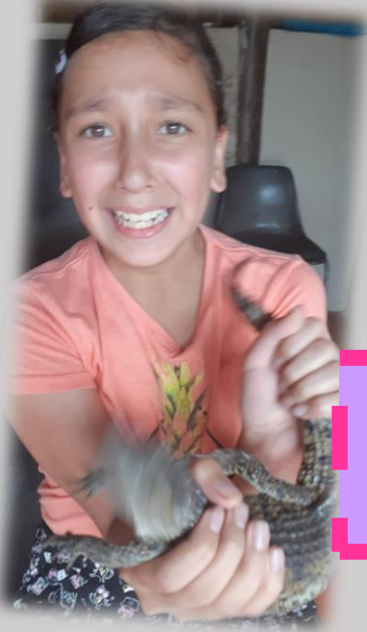
Math Class



Grade 5 Fieldtrip – Croc City



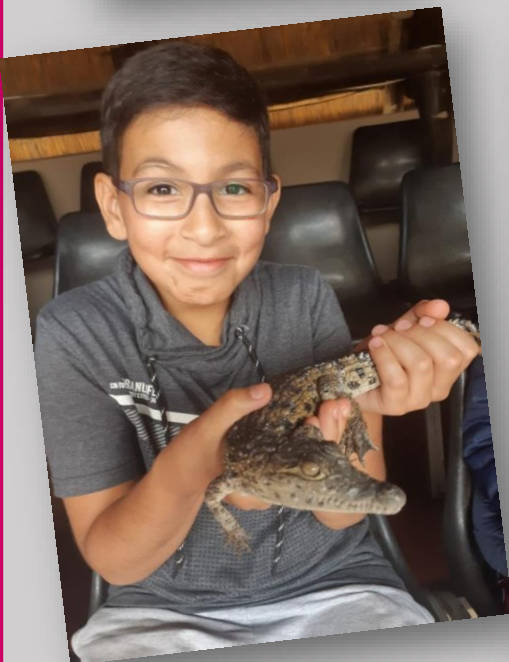
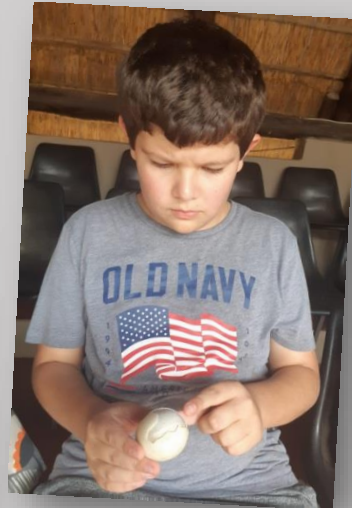
Grade 5 Fieldtrip – Croc City



**Girls will be girls.
We simply love those
faces!**



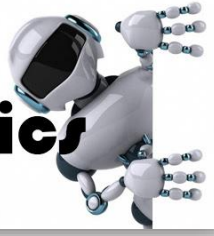
Grade 5 Fieldtrip – Croc City



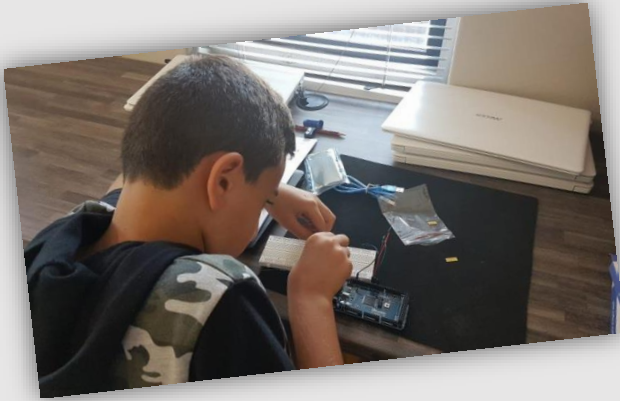
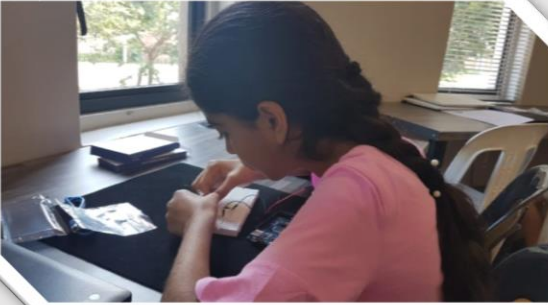
Why Robotics?

They learn the skills needed to create precise and accurate instructions and have fun while learning valuable lessons.

Robotics



GRADE 6



NAIS in Photos

PE classes



NAIS in Photos

Kindergarten & Grade 1

