

Cognet
Tool:

Goal O
rientation

Uniform
Shop
Times
Tues, Wed
7:30-8:15

Events for the week

Wed 27 Feb Book covering Gd 2 (PA) Cricket Matches against Fairways C'wealth—Home TerHorst—Away	Thurs 28 Feb Inter house Cricket/Softball	Fri 1 Mar Gd 4 Tuck 12h30 Assembly Gd 6	Sat 2 Mar
Sun 3 Mar	Mon 4 Mar Open Afternoon Gr 1—3 13:30-14:30 Gr 4—7 14:00—15:00	<u>Tues 5 Mar</u>	Wed 6 Mar Book covering Gd 1 (PA)

Bellavista School: "a small slice of heaven" (Prof Kathy Greenberg, February 2013)

Every so often, Bellavista gets the opportunity to receive feedback on its performance and development as a school from people who are completely objective in their position and view. The week before the mid-term break was one such opportunity. The four short days prior to the break saw the school host two of the most leading education researchers on the international stage. Both spent time interviewing myself and the staff, visiting our classrooms and exploring our policies and practices. Dr Maryanne Wolf and Prof Kathy Greenberg hail from the United States, travel worldwide and share a common interest in education, but are not directly co-workers. By chance, they were both attending a cognitive education conference in Cape Town the week prior. By design, they were both invited to visit our little school. By neither chance nor design, they both extended to our school only the highest compliment and commendation.

Why does it matter to us that these two researchers found us to be functioning as a place of excellence? I suggest that it matters to me because:

Dr Wolf is the researcher of RAVE-O, a neuroscientist holding chairs at Harvard University and TUFTS University, Boston, and working in strong collaboration with MIT. Those who know the names of these institutions will know that they are Ivy League level, renowned for academic excellence, gold standard research and cutting edge innovation. Compliment from this source is treasured indeed.

Mews From The F

Dr Wolf developed and holds the intellectual property of the RAVE-O programme for literacy that we have implemented, adapted and researched ourselves. She saw a South African interpretation of her work here at our school, and was visibly moved by the effect on our children and the extension of her thinking she saw in action.

Maryanne Wolf is deeply invested in reaching the 100 000 000 children believed to be unschooled worldwide. She came with us to the Department of Education to vouch for our modeling as a start to a local solution to illiteracy that extends way beyond our community, but through which we can share our professional insights to make a difference at large. Her willingness to put her name behind our initiative in this regard was, for me, an expression of trust hard-earned through visible evidence of our effectiveness in our classrooms.

Professor Kathy Greenberg is Professor at the University of Tennesee and the developer of CEA or Cognitive Enrichment Advantage. A direct student of Feuerstein, her name is synonymous with any educator interested in real, deep learning and the brain. For the developer of a cognitive education programme that has impacted the world to find our school nothing short of "a small slice of heaven" stuns us. Kathy travels continuously. Her Ph.D. students follow her all over the international arena. She authors programmes, research articles, books and materials that reach schools and other institutions across all continents. She gave us her nod. We are humbled and encouraged. Professor Greenberg wrote to me after she left, committing to be of service whenever we need her, again, a deep expression of her trust in our work: "I shall remember {sic} all the beautiful teaching/learning I experienced at Bellavista and the vision and vast dedication I saw in all with whom I met and those I had the opportunity to join. Please let me know if I can help in any way. I shall always be there for Bellavista."

I am sharing the feedback of these two brilliant minds and leading educators with you because you need to know that these academics do not visit only special needs schools worldwide, they visit *all* schools. Bellavista was not found wanting on their yardstick. In fact, Bellavista was found to be leading, and indeed, in the words of Maryanne Wolf, "gold". By the appraisal of these two leaders in education, your child is in an excellent school, not just an excellent special needs school. Period.

Well done, Bellavista – the parents, the pupils, the staff and the governors. Well done.

Enjoy the week, Alison Scott (Mrs) Principal

Parents Association request:

We need someone to shadow and share the responsibilities in the following portfolios:
Library (Lisa Benatar)
Uniform Shop (Romy Ancer)
MySchool Card (Toni Krost)
Bellavista Bash (Beanie Sacks)
Treasurer (Helen Harding)

Golf Day: Is there anyone willing to manage the prizes and/or sponsorships for the Golf Day which will be held in the month of September.

Please contact Les Vercellotti (Chairlady of the PA) should you be willing to get involved: les.vercellotti@telkomsa.net : 083 327 9548



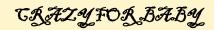


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Friendship Circle has started a first ever, mini-Yeshiva programme, for Jewish Primary School boys only.

High School students from Torah Academy, will meet with your son every Tuesday, at Torah Academy Boys High School (57 Oaklands Rd) from 4:00-4:30 pm. It is an unbelievably rich learning experience, at no cost.

For further details, please contact Leah on 0825191335.



Nanzelelo Moyo is looking for work on two days of the week – Tuesdays and Thursdays. Nanze works for Bellavista School on Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays in the Grade R classroom. She is hard-working, efficient and honest and is very good with children. If you can offer Nanzi work on Tuesdays and Thursdays please contact her on 071 9434709.

Professor Venter

Professor Andre Venter is visiting Bellavista School from Monday 11th March to Friday 15th March.

Bookings have opened. Please contact Bianca in the office—011 788 5454—to book your time slot.

Young dynamic Barmitzvah Portion Teacher

Extensive experience in remedial needs and excellent with children.

Teaches from home in Sandringham

Please call Alon Berman 079 680 6235