



Quarterly Update  
October - December 2023

# LÜDERITZ BLUE SCHOOL

Inspiring wild and curious minds



# EXTRA-CURRICULAR SUMMARY

It has been a busy couple of months with visits from: the global Kelp Blue team, Mr Rich Wrigley - a secondary school science teacher helping us set our Key Stage 3 science curriculum, a film crew, a scientist from the European Space Agency, a mobile planetarium, and the Speed Challenge windsurfers. We also went out and about visiting Oranjemund Private School and representing Namibia at the UNESCO Ocean Literacy Dialogues in Tanzania.



# OCEANS DAY

# 03

Oceans Day continues to be a highlight of the week with a different ocean-related activity every week for children aged 8-12.

The activities have been fantastically varied this term with a mix of active water-based sports on the beach and learning in the classroom. We readvertised the external places to attract a younger group who were not old enough to attend when we started and have a good group of new attendees.

We have started involving the Kelp Blue marine monitor interns more actively in Oceans Day to increase the amount of time we can spend in the water. We are looking forward to building this up next year with our first Ocean Lover intern joining in January.

Kelp Blue purchased four small sailing boats (optimists) which have arrived. We are now looking for someone with the skills to teach it in the Lüderitz condition.



# OCEANS DAY

# 04

October began with an amazing afternoon painting a mural of a kelp forest on the wall of the tennis court. Counting all the kids and adults together we had around 100 artists to transform a previously grey wall into a beautiful mural to brighten up sports Saturdays and our school sports sessions.





# OCEANS DAY

# 05

Some of the Kelp Blue team were working on the outside wall painting boats which we helped finish off the following week - including a Kelp Forest Foundation and a Lüderitz Blue School Boat





# OCEANS DAY

# 06

Another highlight was visiting the Kelp Blue processing factory for the first time where we learnt about how the kelp is processed into biostimulant as well as some of the new products being developed and made alginate beads.

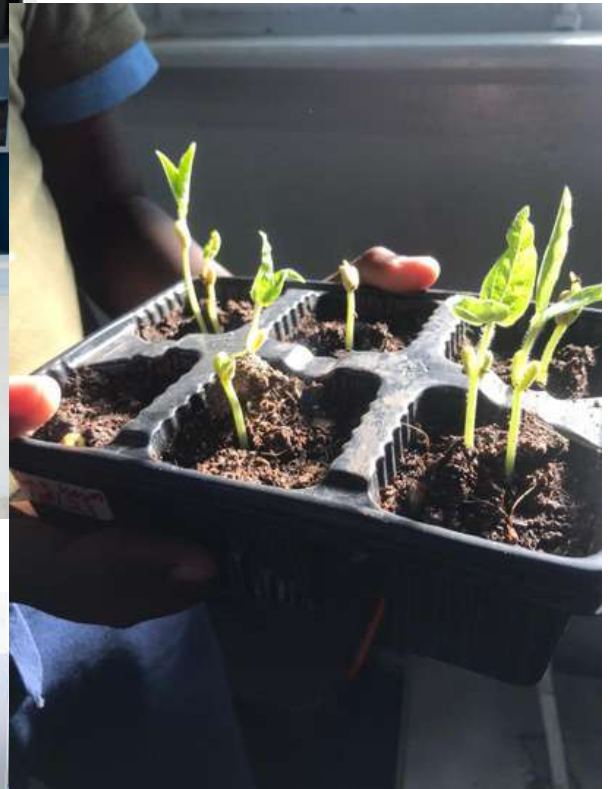




# OCEANS DAY

# 07

The Kelp Blue Team gave us some beans treated with the kelp-based biostimulant. It was amazing to see how quickly they sprouted.





# OCEANS DAY

# 08

On a day when the wind was in our favour, we returned to Agate Beach to learn some more skills in the water - body boarding, surfing on the Stand Up Paddleboards as well as sandcastle building and sports on the beach.





# OCEANS DAY

9

We went to visit Airplane Bay where the tides and currents leave particularly interesting beach cast - when we returned to school we identified the shells, seaweeds and creatures we had found with the help of the KFF MSc students. We even found some *macrocystis pyrifera* from the Kelp Blue farm.





# OCEANS DAY

# 10

ESA Satellite expert Anna Burzykowska came to Lüderitz to film the kelp farm as part of a series she is making for Polish television about what you can monitor in space. As part of her visit she came to tell the Ocean's Day kids about satellite monitoring, prisms and left us some amazing posters with beautiful satellite imagery.





# OCEANS DAY

# 11

The Windsurfers of the Lüderitz Speed Challenge did not have as many windy days as they had hoped for this year. But we were lucky enough to visit on a very windy day where racers were going over 48 knots - that is 24.7 m per second! We met 26 times world champion Antoine Albeau and the new German female record holder Melek Toraman





# BENGUELA ROBOTICS LAB

# 12

In the Robotics Lab this quarter we have continued our work with sensors including making a machine that tells you when your plants need watering. We have also developed our coding skills to create computer games and simple programmes. Felix Matongo visited all the government schools in Lüderitz to present the club which resulted in some new enrolments.





# BENGUELA ROBOTICS LAB

13

We bought a new Lego Mindstorms set to be able to build more sophisticated lego robots and have ordered a drone building kit so from next year the kits will be able to build and programme their own drones.

The Ocean Loving intern coming in January also has experience teaching robotics so he will help Felix develop the curriculum and undertake a project to build and control a Mars rover.





# ADVENTURE CLUB 14

Adventure Club is for the younger learners from ages 6-8 before they join Oceans Day. Some days we combine the groups and everyone does the same activity, other days Adventure Club have their own activities. The highlight of this quarter was a 'Trip to Greece' - the kids created their own passports and packing lists, went through passport control and then boarded the plane to Greece. It was a magical afternoon creating the next generation of world travellers - you can see more here: <https://fb.watch/oBv7X5xBdd/>



**Checking in and passport control**



# ADVENTURE CLUB 15



**Refreshments on the plane**



**Olympic Games in Greece**



**And lots of delicious Greek food**





# SCIENCE CLUB

# 16

Science club has continued exploring different chemical reactions to make things move, change and explode. One experiment this term involved making plastic out of milk.



We had a visit from secondary school teacher Rich Wrigley who works at a school in Mexico. He helped with science club and classes as well as helping everyone to build an ofrenda - a tribute to deceased loved ones to mark the Day of the Dead, celebrated in Mexico on the 1st November.



# STARGAZING

# 17

Mr Rich, like Mr Felix, is also a big fan of astronomy so we took the opportunity while he was here to do our first ever stargazing trip. We went inland to escape the mist and were rewarded with beautiful clear views of Saturn and Neptune rising in the Eastern sky



# VISIT FROM THE MOBILE PLANETARIUM 18

A team from UNAM and Radboud University in the Netherlands brought their mobile planetarium to Lüderitz. The Blue School coordinated the day that involved every one of the 9 schools in Lüderitz and allowed 367 people the chance to fly into space without leaving town.





# VISIT FROM THE MOBILE PLANETARIUM 19





# OTHER EXTRA-CURRICULAR

20



New donations to the library were enjoyed by the bookworms



Introducing Lady Blue - our hand painted Octopus made from old tyres.



Making our own boardgames



# OTHER EXTRA-CURRICULAR

21



Cooking club continued to make delicious food

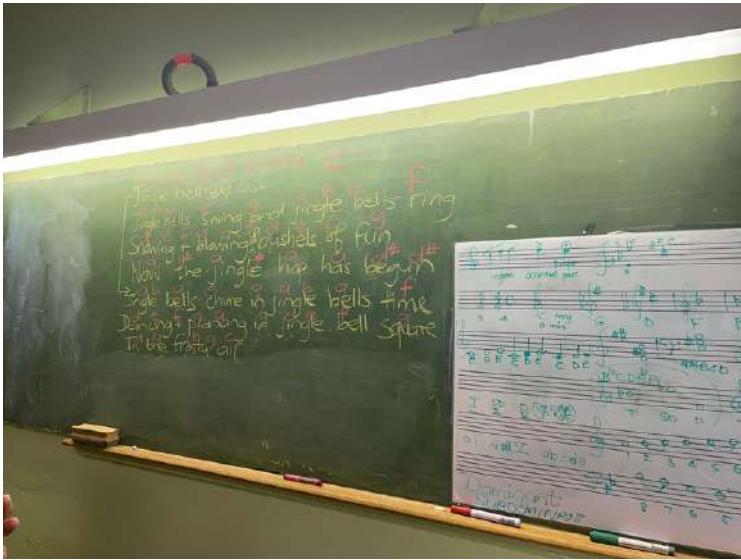


And chess is even better with a view



# TRIP TO ORANJEMUND 22

We took the learners who will enter Grade 7 next year to Oranjemund to see the Cambrilearn Centre in action and get familiar with how online learning works in a classroom format with a teacher. We were also inspired by the Oranjemund Private School's music centre and the town's newly opened art centre filling us with ideas of future cooperation.





# UNESCO OCEAN LITERACY DIALOGUES

23

Miss Marnie travelled to Tanzania to represent Namibia in the UNESCO Ocean Literacy Dialogues. Her presentation on the work that the Lüderitz Blue School is doing to promote Ocean Culture and Education was very warmly received and held up as an example of best practice in ocean literacy in education. She came back brimming with ideas on how to develop and expand the programme to become a world-leading example on teaching about the ocean.





# ENVIRO DAY ART COMPETITION

24

The Lüderitz Blue School was one of four schools to compete in the Enviro-Day challenge organised by the Lüderitz Town Council. One of the judges was Elizabeth 'Queenie' Petrus from MFMR. Schools were asked to come up with ideas for artworks or objects made only from recycled materials. There was some amazing creativity on display and the LBS recycled 'aquarium' was much admired by the judges.





To top off a very busy month and to celebrate our first birthday, the Lüderitz Blue School hosted Playtopia! With challenging games, lots of delicious food and a full morning of fun, it was wonderful to see the school buzzing with kids, families and excitement.

