



LÜDERITZ BLUE SCHOOL

Inspiring wild and curious minds

1st Term Update
January - April 2026

TERM 1 2026

We came back with a bang in January with new students, new boarders in the Blue House, new interns and a team of teachers raring to go. It has been another action-packed term filled with memorable events - from celebrating reading and books on World Book Day to competing in the Athletics Zonals, exploring our creative side amongst the hyenas in Bakers Bay, watching the sunrise from Shark Island and welcoming a group of visiting students from St George's to show them all that Lüderitz has to offer. Our students have had plenty of moments to explore their creativity, academic excellence, sporting prowess and boundless curiosity.

We hope you enjoy reading about it as much as we enjoyed the term.



The back-to-school welcome committee

PETROFUND SCHOLARS

We welcomed our first scholars sponsored by Petrofund to the Blue School this year. Petrofund has selected a cohort of bright and enthusiastic young people from across the Kharas region to benefit from a Blue School education. This is part of their efforts to support STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) subjects across Namibia.

The scholars joined our Skates and Rays class and live in the beautiful Blue House boarding house, where they take part in the evening and weekend activities. So far, they have settled in brilliantly.



SCHOOL INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS

We held our inter-house athletics event in February - a chance to pick our top athletes to send to the Zonals competition and an opportunity for all students to enjoy competing in a wide range of different events. The students competed for their houses, and after a day of close run races and fantastic displays of sportsmanship and athletic prowess, the Sky House emerged victorious.







ZONAL ATHLETICS

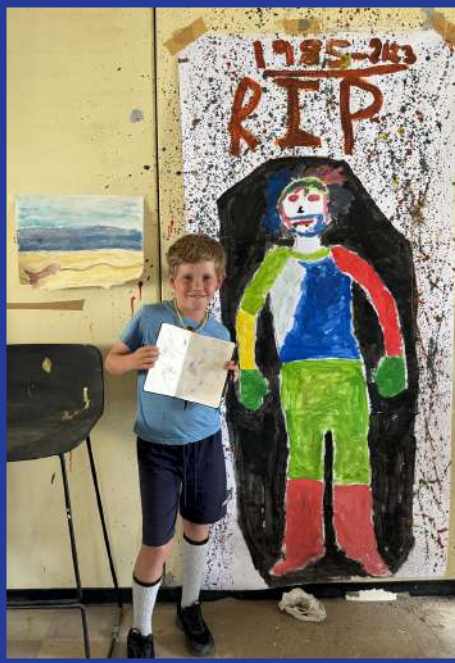
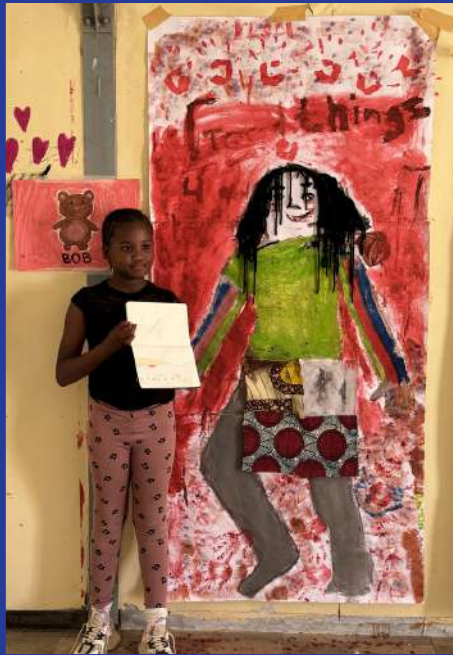
The top performing athletes from the Inter-House tournament went on to represent the school at the Zonal athletics in Rosh Pinah. Jayden, our sports scholar, narrowly missed out on a place for Regional selection. All our athletes gave it their all and performed brilliantly over a very long day in the heat. We were very proud of each and every one of them.



BAKERS BAY

While our top athletes were in Rosh Pinah, our top artists were in Baker's Bay in the Tsau //Khaeb (Sperrgebiet) National Park as part of a very special artists' retreat organised by OMDIS Art Centre in Oranjemund. Inspired by the extraordinary natural surroundings, the students created unique artworks to bring back to share with the school. We were also lucky enough to be joined by hyena expert Marie Lemerle from the Brown Hyena project who shared her work with us and introduced us to some of the regular hyena visitors at the nearby seal colony. We also had a fascinating tour of the geology of the area by a visiting Namdeb geologist. A huge thank you to Namdeb and OMDIS for making this visit possible. It was a once in a lifetime moment for our students.







WORLD BOOK DAY

On 13th March we celebrated World Book Day to encourage a love of reading and books amongst all our learners from youngest to oldest. Learners were encouraged to dress up as a character from their favourite book and there were lots of book related activities throughout the day. World Book Day is a highlight of the calendar every year - it is always such a joy to see all the creative outfits and to watch so many students getting lost in a good book.



World Book Day



DIVE INTO READING

We also held a special event to celebrate and encourage literacy in younger children and help parents and young children discover the love of reading together. This event was open to the whole community and we had children and families join us from across Lüderitz.



GIZ LTC EVENT

The Lüderitz Town Council and GIZ organised a special event for schools asking students to imagine the Lüderitz of the future. It encouraged lots of creative solutions to the growth of the town and demonstrated the priorities of the youth. Prizes for the best entries were given in all age categories. The Blue School took home prizes in each category, including the top overall entry which was won by Hoadadi.



VISIT FROM RAPHAEL GARCIA

Lüderitz hosted a very special visitor in March - Raphael Garcia is currently attempting a solo row from Lüderitz to Brazil. He came into school to tell the students about his plans for the trip, how he built the boat and everything he will take with him for the adventure. The Shark class were even able to test out his boat - Sater - and rowed the first section with him when he started his journey. He expects to arrive in Brazil some time in July and we are following his progress online.





Donation

We received a generous donation from LL Nkadhikwa Investments CC of essential items for the school and yarn for the crochet club. Our school is a not-for-profit and relies on the generosity of donors to be able to offer our wide range of activities. It was fantastic to receive such a generous and thoughtful donation from the local community.



ST GEORGE'S VISIT

In March we welcomed our first visiting school to test drive our Biodiversity Camps - a new outreach initiative we have launched to help increase the school's revenue. The first group came from St George's School in Windhoek and the feedback from the students and teachers was overwhelmingly positive. It was also a great opportunity for our students to join in some of the activities and make new friends.

These 2 week long camps are designed for school groups of students aged 11-18 and combine field-based scientific research, environmental education, and outdoor learning. They stay in the Blue School's historic boarding houses and learn about the extraordinary environment of Lüderitz and the cultivated kelp forests of Kelp Blue. If you know of a school that might be interested in joining one of the trips, please get in touch with Outreach@Luderitzblueschool.com



St George's Visit



St George's Visit



SECONDARY PLAYGROUND

With increased numbers in the secondary school and three year groups, we needed more outdoor space for the older students to use during break time. We have set up a separate area for them in the garden of the Woerman Guest house where our interns are also now staying.



COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

In April, the secondary school put on a captivating performance of the first half of the Count of Monte Cristo. The script had been adapted by Freddie in the Sharks class and the entire production was designed and staged by the secondary school students, with help from Ms Sasha and Ms Lucy. It was an ambitious undertaking and required a huge amount of effort in terms of learning lines and rehearsing but all the hard work paid off in a memorable performance. We can't wait for the second half!



INTERNS

We were fortunate to welcome another cohort of interns who brought their skills, talents, and expertise to the school and threw themselves into school life. In term one, we welcomed Mr Barth, an experienced marine science teacher who led the Marine and Maritime classes as well as teaching the Marine Science IGCSE class. We also welcomed Mr Fergusson and Mr Robinson who led sports sessions, public speaking classes, Spanish lessons and took the lead on our sunrise walk. We were also delighted to welcome back Ms Barrow to continue her time in Lüderitz with a joint internship between Kelp Blue and the Lüderitz Blue School leading on all things performing arts.



MENTAL HEALTH WALK

We held another Sunrise Walk to raise awareness about mental health issues and to take a moment to check in with each other, to remember that we are not alone and to remind ourselves that after even the darkest times, we can walk together into the light. It was a beautiful event well attended by the whole community of Lüderitz with moving contributions from staff and students who spoke at designated stops along the way. We are especially grateful to Mr Fergusson for helping to organise the event and sharing his own story with such honesty and bravery.

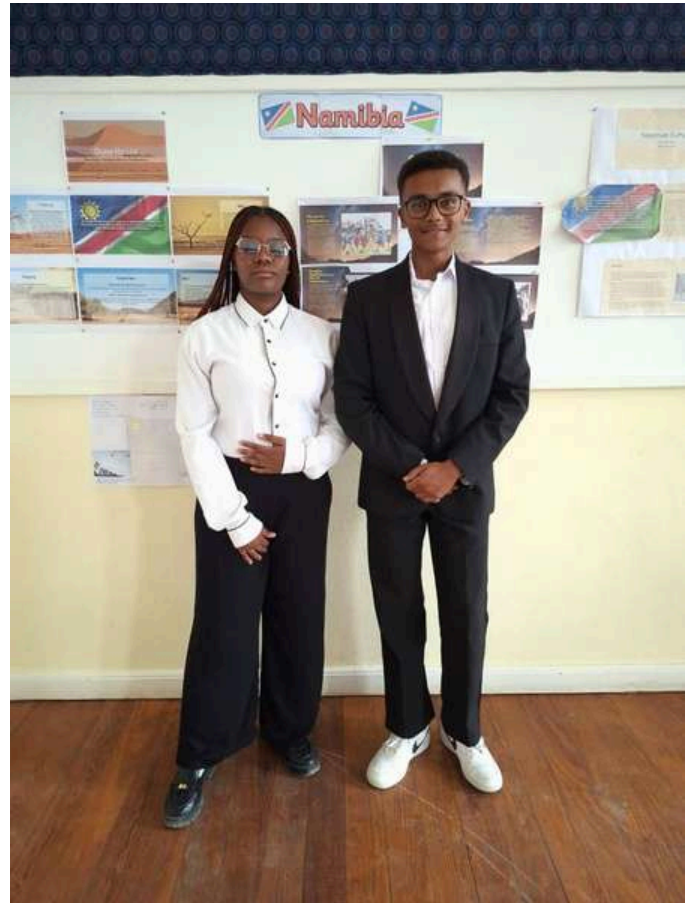


Mental Health Walk



JUNIOR COUNCILLORS

The Lüderitz Town Council inaugurated the first meeting of the Junior Town Council, made up of secondary school students to serve as ambassadors for youth leadership, civic responsibility, and community engagement within the town. Chanelle and Carlos from the Sharks class were selected as junior councillors and will serve on the council. We are very proud of their leadership and look forward to productive discussions about the future of Lüderitz and other issues affecting young people.



INDEPENDENCE DAY

We celebrated Namibian Independence Day with a special assembly celebrating the diverse cultures of Namibia including delicious food. Everyone dressed in colourful traditional dress or the colours of the Namibian flag.

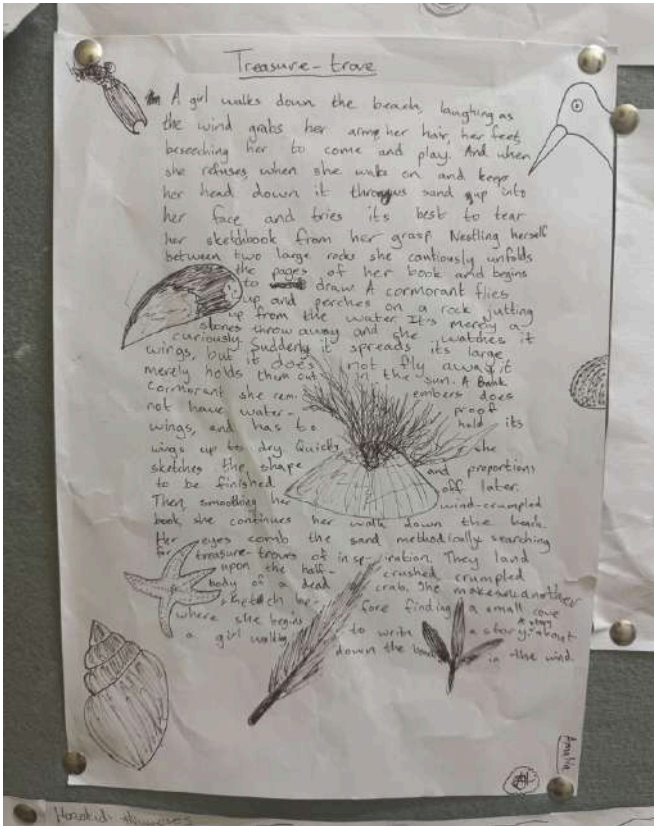


Independence Day



OCEAN DAYS

Ocean Days continued to be a highlight of the week, with three different groups involved in a different activity every week. These activities ranged from making their own marine animals to playing an ecology game on Agate beach, creating a display about the birds of Lüderitz, another fashion show displaying recycled sustainable designs, rockpooling and collecting rubbish at the first lagoon, creating sketches to illustrate the ocean's impact on the landscape and a botany expedition.



Octopus class cleanup at lagoon



SAILING AND ROWING



Sailing and rowing continued every weekend where the weather permitted with a number of new sailors gaining the skills and confidence to captain a boat on their own. On one calm Saturday we sailed from the harbour to Agate beach for a beach braai to celebrate the achievement.



Sailing and rowing



BOARDING ACTIVITIES

Our Blue House boarders took part in a range of activities from surf lessons at Agate beach to camping trips on the peninsula.



Boarding Activities



Camping at Diaz Point

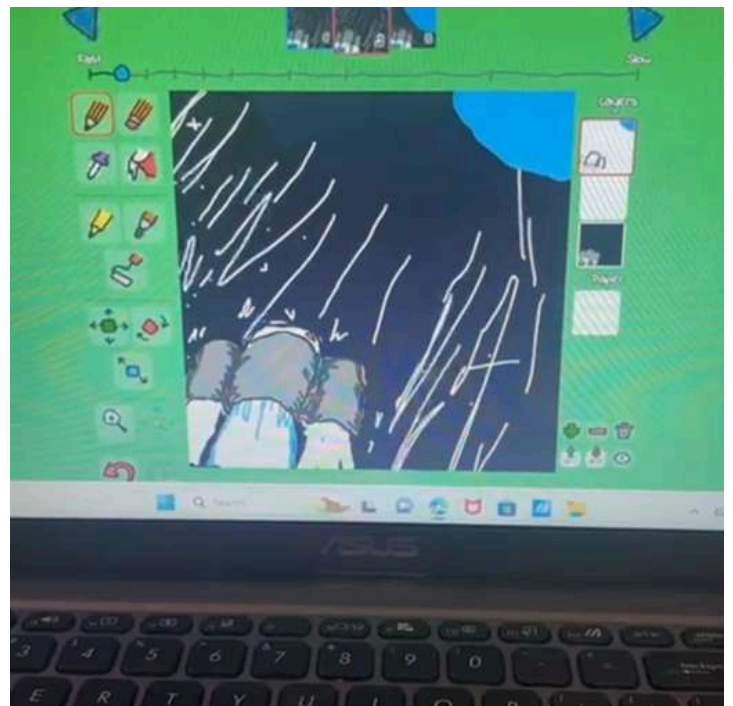
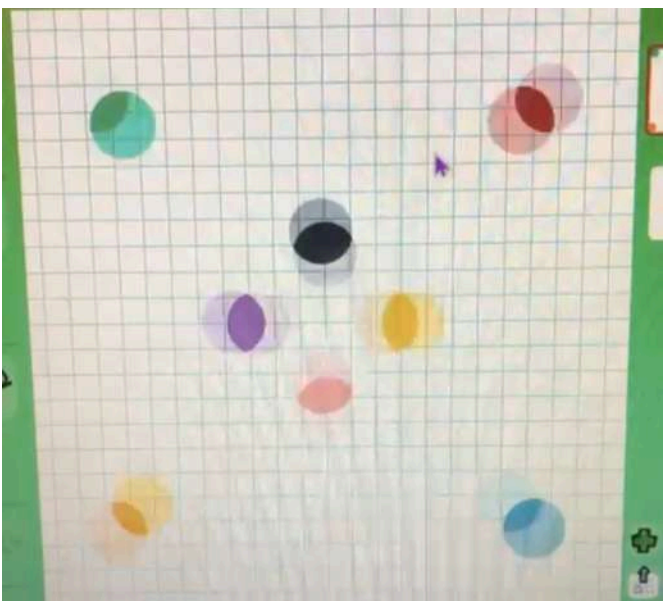


Visit to Shark Island

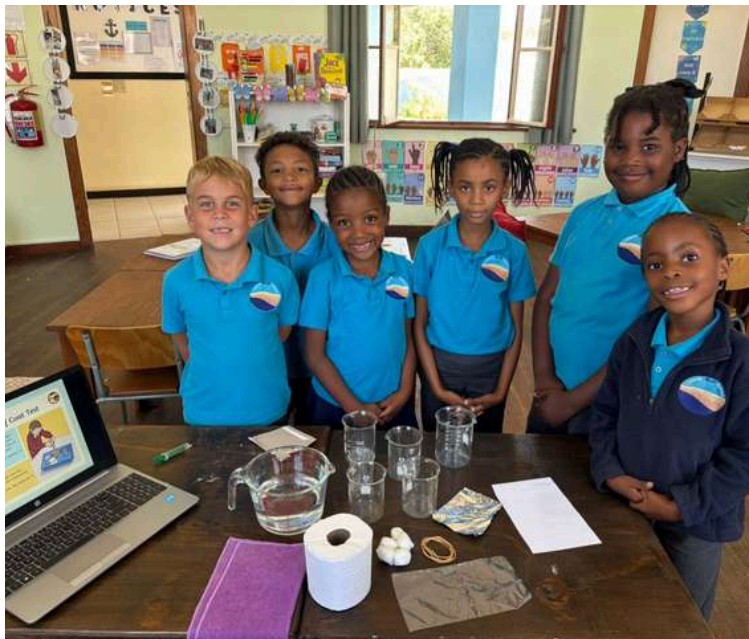
ANIMATION CLUB



Animation Club launched for the first time in Term 1 and proved very popular with the secondary students. It follows a skills-based programme focused on teaching students the foundations of animation, digital creativity, and storytelling.



CLUBS AND CLASSROOM FUN



Clubs and classroom fun



GOODBYES

We were sad to say goodbye to some of our team at the end of term. We thank them for the important contributions they have all made to the school and wish them all the best for the next step in their journeys.



**Best wishes to
Patrick and Ele
Staddon-Davis,
Samantha and
Don Higoam and
Jessica Shaw**

