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Newsletter 13/2019

14 February 2019

## Happy Valentine's Day!



Al ooit gewonder hoe het Valentynsdag ontstaan? Wel, hierdie geskiedenis is net so geheimsinnig soos die mense wat Valentynskaartjies stuur. Niemand weet rêrig nie. Van die bespiegeling dateer terug tot ongeveer drie eeue voor Christus. Valentyn, priester, het keiser Cladius se soldate en hul meisies in die geheim getrou. Die troues moes noodgedwonge in die geheim plaasvind, want die keiser het geglo jong, ongetroude mans is die beste soldate. Hiervoor het Valentyn met sy lewe geboet, maar sy romantiese heldedaad het hom reeds teen die middeleeue wêreldroem en heilige status gegee.

Martyrdom stories associated with various Valentines connected to February 14 are presented in martyrologies, including a written account of Saint Valentine of Rome imprisonment for performing weddings for soldiers, who were forbidden to marry and for ministering to Christians persecuted under the Roman Empire. According to legend, during his imprisonment Saint Valentine restored sight to the blind daughter of his judge, and before his execution he wrote her a letter signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valentine%27s\\_Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valentine%27s_Day)

**Important Speech** by Mrs Angie Motshekga, MP, in support of the 2019 SONA in a joint sitting of the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, Tuesday, 12 Feb 2019

All schools should take note of this very important policy speech by the minister, because of the very important and relevant announcements. We are part of a rapidly changing world and the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution can have a positive impact on Education - if we manage these changes successfully. The Department has rightfully decided therefor to embrace these developments and to play a leading role in preparing learners according to the needs of the society and the requirements of the economy.

She covered the following topics in her speech:

- Foundations of learning, especially with regards to the early grades, and assessment.
- On Early childhood development
- Knowledge, skills and competencies for a changing world
- Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs)
- Three-Stream Curriculum Model

The full speech is available at <http://bit.ly/Speech2019a>.

## Data-driven Education: SA's success story

*"Although much of the focus in preceding weeks has been on the recent announcement of the National Senior Certificate (NSC) results, in which the class of 2018 obtained a 78.2% national pass rate, up from 75.1% in 2017, many stories of extraordinary progress being made in South Africa's basic education system remain untold.*

*"One such story is our remarkable journey towards a data-driven education system. South Africa is one of few countries in the world that can claim to have near real-time attendance, assessment and education progress data for more than 22 000 schools at their fingertips for every week of the school year."*

Read more at <https://mg.co.za/article/2019-01-25-00-data-driven-education-sas-success-story>.

## Circulars

The following circulars are available at <http://www.eccurriculum.co.za/Circulars.htm>:

- **Memo:** CASATU Strike
- **Memo:** Preference of Educator Appointments Lost Level 1
- **Memo:** Appointment of B.Ed. Graduates without Qualification Confirmation from Universities
- **Circular 25 of 2018/19:** Vacant Posts - Closing Date 22 February 2019

## Sakh'isidima Newsletter

The **Sakh'isidima Newsletter** of the Eastern Cape Department of Education is available at <http://bit.ly/hoorhier>.

Love does not consist in gazing at each other  
but in looking together in the same direction.

Antoine de Saint-Exupery

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