



Hoor hier

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Newsletter 50/2020

13 July 2020

Media Release

MEDIA RELEASE

10 July 2020

COUNCIL OF EDUCATION MINISTERS CONSIDER STRONG ACTION AGAINST ONGOING DISRUPTIONS OF SCHOOLS BY INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZED BODIES

The Council of Education Ministers (CEM), led by the Minister of Basic Education; Mrs. Angie Motshekga held a meeting early this morning. The meeting discussed developments recorded since the second cohort of learners returned to school around the country on the 6 July 2020.

CEM noted that schooling is indeed resuming with good progress, the learners were received well and many schools have made a concerted effort to prepare adequate sanitation, health and safety measures to welcome the learners back.

The CEM noted with disappointment and dismay ongoing sporadic attempts by political and civic organisations to disrupt learning at some schools around the country.

These organizations have threatened teachers and learners, others have gone to court and failed to stop the school reopening and now are bent on resorting to threats and disruptions to achieve their intended goals.

The full document is available as attachment at <http://bit.ly/hoorhier>.

Mental Health Webinars

TOPICS	PRESENTER	PROVINCIAL PRESENTATIONS	DISTRICT PRESENTATION	TIME
Stress management	A. Human	9 July	10 July	14:00
Calm classroom: a teacher's guide	C. Van Vuuren	15 July	16 July	14:00
ADHD strategies	H. Uys	22 July	23 July	14:00
Covid- 19: Educator guide on psychosocial well-being of learner	N. Nqadala	29 July	30 July	14:00
Study Skills Part 1	N. Makiwane-Mazinyo	5 August	6 August	14:00
Study skills part 2	M. Mahembe	12 August	13 August	14:00
Basic Counselling Skills	K Losa	19 August	20 August	14:00
Prevention and wellness during covid-19	J. Cromhout	26 August	27 August	14:00
Coping Strategies for teachers during Covid-19	K. Shrestha	2 September	3 September	14:00
Attitude is a choice	H. Uys	9 September	10 September	14:00
Anxiety: Covid-19 tool for parents	L. Tafeni	16 September	17 September	14:00
Emotional Intelligence	N. T. Mcoteli	23 September	24 September	14:00

More information about these webinars is available at

<http://www.eccurriculum.co.za/Circulars.htm>.

CVs

(More information and contact details available at <https://bit.ly/CVdata>.)

Rethabile Sello

Phase(s)

Fase(s)

Subjects

Vakke

Preferred Area

Voorkeurgebied

Foundation/Grondslag, Intermediate/Intermediêr, Senior, FET/VOO

Business Studies and Technology

All of EC

Lusanda Maqungo

Phase(s)

Fase(s)

Subjects

Vakke

Preferred Area

Voorkeurgebied

FET/VOO

Computer Applications Technonogy - 10 to 12

English FAL - 8 - 12

Umtata, East London, King Williams Town, Idutywa, Butterworth

Virtual Coding Tournament for Learners

Mandela Day virtual coding tournament for pupils

The Nelson Mandela University department of computing sciences is hosting another inter-schools virtual coding tournament on Mandela Day.

Schools from across the country are invited to take part in the tournament using BOATS, an educational coding app developed by a team from the Nelson Mandela University.

The tournament will run from July 18 to 25 and no previous experience is required.

While having fun, pupils will be educated on coding, marine pollution and Covid-19, with R30,000 worth of prizes, including tablets, data and cash, awaiting top winners.

NMU computing sciences professor Jean Greyling said the tournament would be a fundraiser for the South African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds.

For every pupil who enters, R15 will be donated towards the organisation, Greyling said.

The foundation's Port Elizabeth centre manager, Margot Collet, said it had been unable to make an income since the lockdown was implemented in March.

"Most of our income comes from visitors and learners com-



FOR THE BIRDS: NMU computing sciences professor Jean Greyling says the university's upcoming virtual coding tournament will be a fundraiser for the South African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds. Photograph: WERNER HILLS

ing to our centre — through entry fees.

"Also, we raise funds through selling merchandise from our shop and coffee shop which have been closed since the beginning of lockdown.

"We have had to be creative to find alternative ways to raise funds and, in this economic climate, [it has] not been easy," Collet said.

The Mandela Day tournament is the second BOATS tournament to be held virtually, after 180 pupils from 30 schools took part in

the first virtual competition launched in May.

The tournament was won by Alexander Road High School, which was rewarded with R4,000, while Newell High School's Simamkele Dekeda was the overall winner of the competition, earning a two-gig data bundle.

Using mainly short WhatsApp videos, schools and pupils will be guided on how to enter and participate in the tournament from home. Learners can thus participate from home by interacting with

the BOATS coding app.

"The coding is based on the robotics curriculum of lower primary school grades, but the competitive nature of the app makes it fun even for matriculants.

"Through tips and multiple-choice questions, learners are furthermore educated on marine pollution as well as health safety issues related to Covid-19.

"The app is thus an ideal tool to use by schools to keep their learners aware of these relevant topics," Greyling said.

BOATS was developed last year to educate pupils about marine pollution and coding, but Greyling and his team had since added features that allow for virtual tournaments and covid-19-related information.

BOATS is one of three coding apps co-ordinated by Greyling aimed at introducing pupils to coding without the use of a computer.

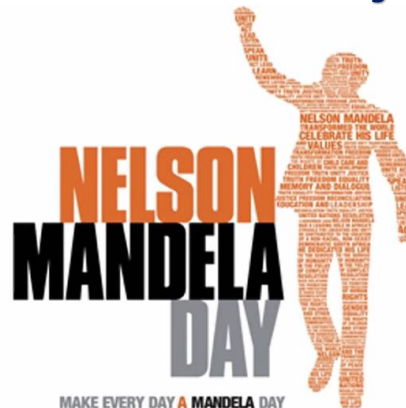
Award-winning TANKS focuses on coding, while RANGERS educates about game poaching in Africa.

To take part in the tournament, contact Greyling on

jean.greyling@mandela.ac.za

— Zamandulo Malonde

Watch this short video for more information: Click the image below to download the short video.



Virtual coding tournament

Pres Cyril Ramaphosa Nation Address 12 July 2020

(Just click the pic to view the video.)



Teachers Don't Have To Be Superheroes

(Just click the pic to view the video.)

**3 REASONS
WHY TEACHERS
DO NOT
HAVE TO BE
SUPERHEROES**



Bursaries available for university study in 2021

Kindly take note of the bursaries listed in **Business Insider** at <https://www.businessinsider.co.za/university-bursaries-2021-2020-5>.

ECDDoE Curriculum Support: Online Resources

A large number of Curriculum Teaching and Learning Support Material has been developed for Teachers and Learners and is available at <http://www.eccurriculum.co.za>. This is relevant for...

- **ECD: 0 – 5 year old**
- **Grade R (Play, Learn & Grow Together)**
- **Foundation Phase (Lesson Plans & Trackers)**
- **Intermediate Phase (Pace Setters, Lesson Plans & Worksheets)**
- **Senior Phase (Pace Setters, Lesson Plans & Worksheets)**
- **FET Phase (Video lessons, Worksheets, Trackers & Tests)**
- **eLearning (Various resources)**



Regularly
updated.

Teaching and Examination Resources

Please visit our websites for lots of Teaching and Examination Resources:

- <http://www.eccurriculum.co.za/>
- <http://www.ecexams.co.za/>

Recovery Plan

All the documents relevant to the Department of Education's Recovery Plan are available at <https://bit.ly/RecoveryPlans2020>.

Prospective Teachers!

- **Principals and SGBs** who need teachers are invited to scan the database of prospective teachers at <https://bit.ly/CVdata>. **Tip:** To find a teacher for a specific phase or subject, do the following at the webpage: **Ctrl + F** will open a search window. Enter a keyword, for example **Maths**, and then work through the search results.
- **Prospective Teachers** are welcome to submit their CVs online at <http://bit.ly/CVinfo>.

**The secret of change
is to focus all of your energy,
not on fighting the old,
but on building the new.**

Socrates

This is a private newsletter and it does not reflect the official views of the Department of Education.

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