



Golang Education Outreach

Emothonjeni Community Centre, Zandspruit
Newsletter 1/2015

“ For what you have done for the least of my brethren, you have done to Me ”

Matt 18 verse 6

SANTA SHOEBOXES

2014 ended on a positive note, with each child receiving a Santa Shoebox and PWC once again sponsoring the year-end party, with slip 'n slides galore. Much fun was had by all!



We love our Santa Shoeboxes!



PWC Christmas party

FAREWELL, RIEKIES

We bid a sad farewell to Riekies Huisamen at our Christmas Party, who has accepted a position at Kings School. Riekies from the Ruimsig Gemeente has given so selflessly of her time and talents,



Waiting patiently for their Christmas gifts!



Christmas party with Riekies

nurturing and monitoring the caregivers, organizing the programs, newsletters, staff training, netball, fundraising and many other roles which she so effectively played.

DONATIONS

SOMB (USA), who donated tracksuits at the beginning of the year, gave another donation of 145 pairs of school shoes in November. Other generous extraordinary donations were made by Thusang, Treasury One, Barclays Africa, Nedbank, PWC, Mota-Engil, Proctor and Gamble and Wesbank.



Yay! New tracksuits

PRESCHOOL AND AFTER CARE UPDATE

It costs Golang R320 per child per month and of course, our monthly donors are the ones on whom we depend to cover our monthly expenses – without these pledges, we would not be able to continue our work with the children of Golang!



Fun at after care

Golang Education enjoys a full complement of 7 grade/group teachers in the Aftercare, while the Preschool has 3 qualified teachers, and 1 cleaner/assistant. After a well-deserved rest, Golang staff began the 2015 year with 60 Preschoolers and 198 registered Aftercare Children in January. We went on a Staff Training Retreat to Rocky Valley Camp, where we participated in team-building, as well as receiving lessons on having closer relationships with the children in their care and how to tell stories with passion and dynamism. Without our dedicated staff members, Golang would certainly not run as effectively as it does.



Preschool graduation

The Embark Foundation, motivated through the wonderful efforts of Golang Board Member, Louise Rivett, donated one container to the Preschool and five more to the Aftercare to be used as classrooms. This has made a tremendous difference both during inclement weather, as well as giving more structure to the Aftercare Program.



Our computer homework centre arrived

A computer homework centre has been set up in one of our containers by one of our valued volunteers. We are awaiting internet access from another generous donor.



Preschool Outing to Tres Jolie

Mary and Anna, two of our teachers, also assist at Masakhane School three mornings per week. Mary assists in grade 3 and Anna grade 1. They help by marking, bringing order in the class and helping slow learners.

The library is operating successfully on Wednesdays and we have two volunteers from our Youth Group, Motebang and Mathabo who assist Clarah. Wednesday is literacy day and every child has a chance to read a book. Children practice how to read, spell, improve their vocabulary and how to construct sentences with new words they have learned. We also use booklets where children read a comprehension and tell a short summary of the story.

They also do word formation and answer simple multiple choice questions as comprehension.

The Clicks Foundation and Emthonjeni assisted Golang in setting up "Reading Eggs" – a software program which teaches children to read, which began successfully this year. This is a computer program where children learn to read using only the computer – and the little ones love it!

Anna Nyaphuli also does group counselling with about 12 children every Monday from 15:30 to 16:30. Parents signed the indemnity form giving us permission to counsel their children. On Thursdays there's a parenting group where we meet with parents and discuss the challenges they encounter in life. We discuss how to overcome them and encourage one another.

THANK YOU

Golang wishes to thank all the volunteers, of which there are many, the donors, sponsors, supporters and parents who assist us in our mission to serve these young people, who are so keen to develop and grow in the difficult but vibrant world of the Zandspruit Informal Settlement.

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