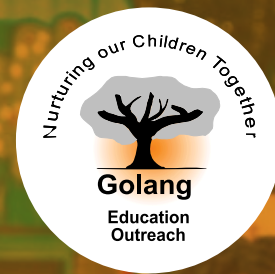


# Golang Education Outreach Emthonjeni Community Centre, Zandspruit



www.golangoutreach.co.za

Newsletter 2018

## 'WHY I ATTEND GOLANG...'

"Attending Golang has given me an opportunity that most of the kids in Zandspruit wish to have. **Golang keeps us safe, and the leaders are so accepting of us** – they have patience and teach us many things. We get help with homework, I get someone to talk to, there are other children my age and many other valuable things. But the major reason is because this place pulls me away from doing things that may harm or destroy me.

**At Golang, I found God, and in God, I find myself, wisdom and knowledge.** I have learnt more about the Bible and I dig deep into knowing God. We are taught the most **important values of life, such as respect, love, trust and honesty.** And that's why I am here!" *Mpho – Grade 9*

## STAFF NEWS:

During the year the following training courses were attended by our Preschool and Aftercare Educators:



Left: Caroline and Violet at the Origins Retreat; Right: Mary's graduation



In March, iVangeli Training was attended by Aftercare Staff; Violet and Caroline attended the Origins Retreat; 'Caring for 0-3 year-olds' was attended by Nontethelelo Ndimande; Grade R Training was attended by Mary Sinodisi (our new Grade R teacher). In April the 'Love Languages' course was attended by 5 educators;

The ECD Conference was attended by 5 preschool teachers and in May, 'Classroom Management' was attended by 3 educators;

The 'Preschool Management' course was attended by Rebecca Shika; In June, I attended Mary Sinodisi's ECD PWAP graduation; Concert Training was attended by Mary and Prudence Shika; in August, Eduweek (Northgate Dome) was

"My name is Banoyolo and I started at Golang this year. **It is very nice here. I am learning about God**, how to live with people, how to love people, and to pray. I love Golang so much." *Banoyolo – Grade 6*

"Golang helps us with homework – **they help us understand what learning does for us so that we can have a bright future.** I am in Grade 4 and we get food, and learn what God wants us to do. Golang is a blessing". *Tshireletso – Grade 4*

“ *They DO THEIR BEST to help us to get better marks in class.* ”

Golang Aftercare Centre takes care of me. Teacher Violet and Teacher Tumi **help me with my homework. They feed us** and help us with my spelling and English. **They do their best to help us to get better marks in class.**

*Nandi – Grade 3*

attended by 10 educators and Nontethelelo and Mary attended Library Training. Rebecca Shika, the Preschool Principal, attended all the Principals' Meetings during this period.

Each grade teacher hands in a Report at the end of every month; **Educators are in contact with parents to establish good relationships**, and to work together for the benefit of all the children at Golang.



Successful Parents' Meetings were held in February and August with over 50 parents attending – a record number. Information regarding a number of things was discussed – our responsibility and their involvement in the children's education; school hours and their children's regular attendance, documentation required when registering, important dates and the fee increase for 2019. We stressed the value of parents working with us for their children to reach their full potential.

Tea and biscuits were served to the parents after the meeting – it was lovely to meet so many of them.



On 5-6 October staff attended the Global Leadership Summit at Mosaiek, with thanks to Louise from Mosaiek for complimentary tickets.

*Staff attending the Global Leadership Summit*

## GOLANG PRESCHOOL:

The Preschool opened with a full complement of children totalling 60, with a new Grade R teacher, Mary Sinodisi. Many activities are enjoyed by the Preschoolers, with the first Term Theme concentrating on their bodies, their families, homes, etc. One of the themes of Term 2 was Vegetables; the Pre-School had a soup day with soup made with vegetables and accompanied by fresh bread. Discussions on the day included talking about the various vegetables one can buy or grow, and how healthy they are for the children.

A Fish Cupcake Day was enjoyed where the children decorated their own cupcake with icing, jelly tots, cherries, and orange quarters for tails, to look like colourful fish. This activity tied in with the week's programme of Under the Sea. At the Nelson Mandela centenary birthday celebrations, the children had a lovely morning singing songs. A number of organisations paid the Pre-school a visit, providing everyone with blankets, cake, toys and an awareness discussion around safety with electrical items.



*Decorating their fish cupcakes - very proud*

A Career Day was held, where two parents came in and told the children about their occupations.

We had a geologist and a nurse give talks, while the children dressed in uniforms for their preferred careers. A fun day was had finding out what career each child wishes to follow.



*Career Day - what will I be?*

Antonia, from Easi-Gas agreed to donate our monthly supply of gas as required until further notice. This will save the Preschool a monthly amount of R189-00.

A delightful baby shower was held for Preschool teacher, Nontethelelo Ndimande, whose baby girl was born on 27 September – she is on maternity leave until Jan 2019. We wish her well with her new baby!

Discussions around the various air, water and land transport followed during the next couple of weeks. To tie in with this, the children made cars out of boxes. They were also taken to the grounds of the Aftercare Centre, where there is a children's play road with stop streets and road signs, where they could observe and learn about the rules of the road.

Among many of the fun mornings we have, the children used blankets and chairs to make a blanket fort, tying in with the week's programme theme of Winter. This was followed with discussions around the different houses that people live in.

A wonderful Sports' Day was held on Friday 17 August from 08h00, with the Golang Preschool hosting 20 visiting schools. After introductions and some welcome songs, the children were led to the field to participate in various games and sporting activities – an exhilarating day was enjoyed by the over 300 children who participated. Each child and their teachers were given lunch, with the proceedings closing at 14h00. Well done to our Principal, Rebecca Shika, and her teachers, for organising such a wonderful event!



*Sports at the sports day*

Parents attended 'Maintenance Day' on 24 August, assisting with cleaning classrooms, furnishings, toys and windows – leaving everything sparkling!

The Preschool Concert, successfully organised by the teachers, was held on Saturday 29 Sept and the theme was "Jesus calms the Storm" – with the narration done by Mary, while the children sang various songs with full gusto, wearing beautiful costumes. It was well attended by parents, who afterwards enjoyed a light lunch. The children performed extremely well, enjoying every minute of the singing and dancing.



*Concert cast*

The local Clinic also paid a visit and performed immunisations of children who have cards. A donation of takkies and bibs for the netball players of the Preschool was given by Kings School recently. These were received with thanks and appreciation.

Youth for Christ arranged a visit by the Archbishop Mitti School in the USA recently. There were about 40 students and representatives in attendance. Small gifts were brought along for the children and activities and fun were had by all.

Each term finishes off with a boerie braai, which everyone thoroughly enjoys.

## GOLANG AFTERCARE:

The Theme for the First Term was "Acts of Service" and for the Second and Third terms, "Listen up" (Good Shepherd - Jn 10:11). Each group participated in an Act of Service within the Zandspruit Community – cleaning the streets, visiting the elderly, washing windows!

Aftercare Staff did Community Service by visiting the residents of the Video Disabled Centre, and providing them with a meal.

Staff Meetings are held every Tuesday to ensure that the week's program is running smoothly; Staff meet every other day at 13h00 to pray and discuss the program for the day. **We currently have 204 children registered – around 30 children per class.**

The children do homework on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays (English, Reading & Spelling, Maths and Science) with the assistance of their educators. We are pleased to report that all children's results across the grades have improved steadily from the first term.

“ALL CHILDREN *worked hard towards the JUNE EXAMS, and THEIR RESULTS have been EXEMPLARY, with improvements all around.*”

They bring their school reports at the end of each term, which are then checked by the teachers. Each teacher is assisted by a Siyakholwa/EPWP student (monitored by Sam), which helps tremendously.

On Thursdays, Word of Life teachers, along with our educators, give the children bible lessons which includes a fun activity. On Fridays the children play a sport – netball, mini-netball, soccer, athletics or games organized by the teachers; many children are also involved in Scouts, Chess, Choir, Spelling Bees, Library attendance, Cycling and Golf.

At Reading Eggs many of the children are performing extremely well, three of them reaching the 100% mark.

15 children attended the 'Dental Ladies' Clinic, a voluntary organisation, headed by Dr Marietjie Weakley, accompanied by two teachers, for dental appointments (and follow-ups).

Mandela Day was celebrated on 18 July, with a sponsorship to the Preschool, but no visitors to the Aftercare, despite adverts in Jozikids and on our Facebook Page.

The Holiday Club, held from 25-29 June was a great success – attended by over 200 children from 08h00 – 13h00. Eight

stations were set up which included various activities, and children moved from one station to the next, enjoying the particular activity at each station. All staff were in attendance, with assistance from Siyakholwa students and our Youth, who had completed their Holiday Club Training at Community Ministeries, thanks to Pastor Sam.



Fun at the zoo

All the children went on an outing to the Jo'burg Zoo on Thursday 27th September, departing at 09h00, accompanied by 12 educators. They had a wonderful time, with some of them having never been to the Zoo, it was an amazing and joyful experience. They enjoyed a picnic at the zoo and were exhausted when they got back in the late afternoon.



During the second and third terms most of the Aftercare children brought their homework, and were assisted with homework tutoring by their educators and students.

Our daily Aftercare Centre Program is as follows:

14h00 - 15h00	Soccer (boys and girls) & Free Play
14h00 - 17h00	Reading Eggs on Computer (English spelling and grammar)
14h00 - 17h00	Library;
15h00 - 15h30	Lunch
15h30 - 17h00	Homework Tutoring

Barclays' volunteers assist on **Wednesday afternoons, providing Maths worksheets and tuition to our Grade 6 group, resulting in improvements in Maths marks all round!**

## SPORT & CULTURE:

Soccer, Netball, Mini Netball, Tennis, Athletics and Golf (co-ordinated by Vusumuzi and Dylan at Jackal Creek Golf Club) are the current sports enjoyed by the children. Scouts and Chess have also resumed this year with volunteers, Dr Alison Bentley and Valentine. The Golang Choir practice weekly, guided by Nhlanhla and two of our Youth.

## YOUTH (HIGH SCHOOL):

There are 45 Youth registered for 2018. They went on an outing to Gold Reef City on 28 March 2018, which funds they raised themselves. They did training for the Aftercare Holiday Club at Community Ministeries (through Pastor Sam) and their assistance was invaluable.

“ They also PARTICIPATED in a SPORTS’ DAY at KINGS SCHOOL. The CHOIR SANG at a FESTIVAL at the JHB CHURCH OF CHRIST. ”

Nhlanhla Mbuyisa, the Youth Co-ordinator, held meetings (Sat mornings) with parents to keep them informed of developments.

Cherie Bulger, our previous Youth Mentor visited Golang with some American friends, and she very kindly raised sufficient funds for the Annual Youth Camp – R40 000. Our Youth attended the Kareekrans Camp from 5-8 October with the theme of ‘Leadership’. It was a fantastic weekend, filled with amazing activities, valuable learning experiences and well facilitated by all those involved.

The High School children who attend Golang are improving academically, also with the help of the Jhb Church of Christ, who assist with homework tutoring on Saturday mornings.

They grow spiritually with the help of “Reach4Life” volunteers, and daily input from Nhlanhla, Langu and Thabo. They were assisted by Dr Bentley in building a beautiful seating area in the Aftercare Centre, using ‘Eco’ bottles.

Barbara Siaki, Thembi Hatang, P Jay, Paul Siaki, Innocentia, Thabo and Langu mentor girls and boys in the Youth on a regular basis, for which we are extremely grateful. Giving of their time and support is the most valuable tool for our young people.

*Sponsor a child FOR ONLY R380 per month*

We have made application to various possible donors, as an ongoing effort to bring in funds, but to date have few positive responses. As a result, we will have to increase the small monthly fees, paid by parents, for the Preschool and Aftercare Centres in 2019.

The necessary Department of Social Development meetings were attended by Carol Purchase and me, with new forms being requested, and there is also a change of office – forms are now handed in to the Johannesburg CBD offices. Their grant has proven invaluable to the continuation of our Preschool.

**Margaret le Roux** Tel: 0829077935

**Banking Details:** Golang Education Outreach / Standard Bank Northcliff 006305 / Current Acc 02301 4598

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Our Soccer Team has successfully won the Tournaments on two occasions and our Netball Team won all their matches while participating in the Kings’ School Tournament – well done to Mohai and Rebecca for their excellent coaching. A Scouts’ Camp was attended on 22-24 June by ten of our children – thanks to Dr Bentley.



Our netball teams are winners!

## CHALLENGES:

There was a major sewage leak from 11 – 18th June, running right through the preschool and aftercare centre, which was eventually sorted out, but many of the children stopped coming that week, due to the high health risk.

**We have had no electricity since September last year. We run a lead from Violet’s house for the Holiday Club music system, Concerts and Sports’ Days, for which we reimburse her.** Security is always a challenge, but break-ins have dropped considerably.

Tragically, one of our Grade 3 girls, Koketso, was electrocuted near her home due to the illegal electrical wiring in Zandspruit. Her funeral was attended by Mbali and Mohai.

**All 300 children’s names have been submitted to the ‘Santa Shoebox Project’ so each child receives a Christmas gift, to be delivered in early December.**

## SPONSORS/DONORS:

Extraordinary donors were Barclays/Absa (Matched Fundraising), Mr Robin Mills, Phil Hasluck, Simone Gasser (a friend from Germany), Verni Construction, the Haslucks

and monthly donors are Ruimsig Gemeente, St Michael and All Angels, NG Kerk Weltevreden, Chateaux Gateaux and the Embark Foundation.

We are also most appreciative of our individual donors, who faithfully sponsor a child every month. Without these generous hearts, Golang Education would not be able to remain open.

For all of those who make donations and sponsor the children, we are truly grateful and take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation of your kindness and compassion. We believe that by supporting children in education, SA will become a better nation for all!

