



KWENA BASIN EDUCATION TRUST

PO BOX 52583
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Dear Trustees, Donors and Friends of the Kwena Basin Education Trust,

2015 was a whirlwind of excitement, change and success for the Kwena Basin Education Trust and this has continued well into 2016. This is a brief update on what you might have missed.



Umthombopholile Primary School welcomed two new graduate teachers into their fold at the beginning of the 2015 school year. Meghan Baiocchi and Natalia Nicholson, Foundation Phase and Early Childhood Development (ECD) teachers, were posted at the school and were instrumental in the success of the first year of the Teacher Development Programme (TDP). The young women held their own and achieved great success in their relevant teaching posts. Their involvement at the school was also a welcome reprieve for the other teachers, who were able to focus on their own classes. Both Natalia and Meghan have been sorely missed at the school this year, and we wish them every success in their future endeavors.

Following strategic discussions towards the end of 2014, the Trust embarked on the first of four years of the Teacher Development Programme (TDP). The Trust identified the urgent need to focus on the broad-based and sustainable development of the local teachers. The TDP is run by Dr Louis Benjamin of Basic Concepts, together with Dr Place of the Trust, and is aimed at uplifting and empowering local Foundation Phase and Early Childhood Development Teachers. The intervention has been specifically designed by Dr Benjamin to target learners from Grade R to Grade 4 who are at risk of developing learning problems during early schooling years. The TDP will add greatly to the education structure in the Kwena Basin, and we have already seen significant improvement from the base line assessments. For more information on Basic Concepts, please see their website: www.basicconcepts.co.za.



The Matrics at Klipspruit Combined School did exceptionally well in their final exams, and achieved a 96% pass rate. This included 5 Bachelors, 16 Diplomas and 5 Certificates. We congratulate the learners, and their teachers, on this outstanding achievement. One of the matrics, Petrus Mosotho, was unable to move to Johannesburg to pursue his Education studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, and the Trust has utilized his skills by appointing him to assist with the daily implementation of the TDP. We hope that he will be able to move to Johannesburg at the beginning of 2017 to embark on his educational journey.

The Dr Jean Place Media Centre continues to be a great source of knowledge and delight to learners in the Kwena Basin. We continue to receive valuable donations of book collections, and are ever grateful to those invested in making the Media Centre a success.

Kwena Basin Education Trust

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Thanks to a specified and generous donation from Trac N4 and the Verlorenkloof building team, the Phakama Kitchen Facility was finally constructed, and adds a sense of convenience and practicality to the small primary school. The feeding scheme was previously entirely dependent on wind and weather conditions, but now the cooks can prepare meals in the comfort and safety of a secure and equipped kitchen facility.

The Fly Fishing Development Clinics continue to be hosted on a quarterly basis by Stuart Smith and the Gauteng North Fly Fishing Association (GNFFA). Interested learners from Klipspruit are collected from their homes and brought to Verlorenkloof to be taught and mentored by seasoned fly fishermen throughout the day. These clinics are run by volunteers, but often become costly. Should you have the means or wish to support this specific initiative, please see more at: <http://flyfishsouthafrica.co.za/development-projects/gauteng-north/>.

The Teaching Experience (TE) in May was another great success, and we look forward to welcoming the Wits School of Education students back to the schools in early September where the TE will be run in conjunction with the TDP.

Mr and Mrs Macmanus were the winners of the Club500 Draw in 2015, and this year we congratulate Con and Carol Roux. The Roux's have been incredibly generous and have donated the week back to the Trust. The Christmas week in Croft 2 is now available in the Verlorenkloof rental pool for R12 500. All proceeds from this rental will go directly to the Trust. Thank you Con and Carol!

For those of you who would like to get involved with the Club500 and stand a chance to win a Christmas week in Croft 2 at Verlorenkloof Estate, please see our website or make contact with us to complete an application form and we can sign you up for a monthly donation of R500.

To make our Club donations more accessible, we have opened up the option of donating a R100 multiple for a pro rata number of tickets in the annual draw – should this option be more attractive to you, please contact the Trust Administrator.

Our new website is finally up and running! Please explore the site on www.kwenabasineducationtrust.org and let us know if there is any way that you would like to become involved with the Trust. Donations, skills and funds are always welcome and much appreciated.

Please remember that the Trust is a registered Public Benefit Organisation (PBO). All donations made to the Kwena Basin Education Trust are fully tax deductible and benefit your BBBEE status.

We wish you all the best for the second part of 2016 and hope to hear from you soon.

Warm regards,
Trustees of the Kwena Basin Education Trust

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