

Heaven-on-Earth Project

Report to our sponsors and friends



July to September 2022

Highlights, testimonies and impact of the past 3 months



**Here's to strong women:
May we KNOW them.
May we BE them.
May we RAISE them.**



We recently celebrated womens month and we, as HOEP-team, salute each of the 118 educators with whom we share a weekly journey. They are strong women. Women who know where their strength come from. Women with a story...



During a visit to teacher Janetta Brinkhuis (above, left), at Sunshine Kids ECD in Sir Lowry's Pass, we were deeply touched by her indescribable inner joy. Despite many challenges and hardship, she rejoices in her Saviour.

As we walked into a classroom, one of us mentioned that the room seemed to be larger than during our previous visit. "It was smaller, indeed! The wall was right here and me and my husband's bed was there" she pointed out. "Now, where do you sleep, seeing that your bedroom became a classroom?" we wondered. "**He lifted us up!**" she said with a bright smile and showed us their double storey extension from outside!

Teacher Charmaine Johannes (above, right), is the headmaster of Poplap ECD in Grabouw. Aware of the two strokes she recently had, Sunette and Olivia decided to quickly check in to see how she is doing. We could hear her voice as we were walking towards the crèche. She is definitely back to being her old self, we told one another. Inside we couldn't see a sign of Charmaine, though. "In the room", the assistant directed. There, on her bed, we found

Charmaine teaching with heart and soul. “Come-in, come-in”, she invited us. Keeping in mind that she just survived two strokes, it made perfect sense to us that she wasn’t standing up.

Then she dropped the bombshell: “After the strokes, I lost the use of both my legs... but God is so good, I am alive, I have my HOEP-program and nothing keeps me from teaching while I’m sitting!”.

We are so blessed to work together with such incredibly strong women from different communities. Beacons of Light and Hope...

Sponsors help in handing out the term’s workbooks



Above and below: 2 185 Learners from 76 crèches in the Western Cape received weekly remedial intervention during the past term. 118 Educators also received weekly, personal training at their crèches. These educators are empowered to present the intervention sessions to their learners in their own classes.

It is so special to HOEP that companies send their employees to hand out the workbooks they sponsored! There is so much more impact when successful businessmen and women visit the learners and interact with them. CS Property Group’s message to the learners was that each one of them have the potential to become exactly what they want to be. They must start working hard now to realise their future dreams.



Busy Bees!



Left and below: The HOEP-team's schedules are jam packed!

Every Monday morning starts off with a team meeting and a training session. It includes training for the week's remedial intervention, the crafts, the "HOEP-lab" (science experiment!) and the accompanying Bible lesson.

We do video recordings of all these training sessions, as we know that the time will come when our territory will be enlarged (1 Chronicles 4:10). In faith we make provision for expanding our program to cities and towns too far away for weekly visits.



Hereafter, our team moves into the field. Every quality co-ordinator has a number of schools she visits personally per week. During these visits the educators are empowered to guide the learners step-by-step to school readiness. Monitoring of the quality of intervention is continually done by Sunette during formal class visits.





Above: What a blessing to see the implementation and the wonderful results! The educators present the HOEP-program with confidence in their own classes.



The different levels in each lesson are by now well-known to the educators and they apply it effectively. Where possible, they start on physical level, where learners use their bodies to practice a specific perceptual skill. Left: Spatial skills are acquired through instructions such as: “Crawl through the hoop, climb over the table and then try to hit the target in the middle by rolling the ball”.



The next exciting step is working on concrete level. Above: Different creative ways to reinforce aspects such as number forming, number recognition and other mathematical concepts, e.g: sorting and recognition of the value of coins.

Below, left: Learners use pipe cleaners and play dough to intergrate number recognition and number forming with fine motor skills. Below (middle and right): Here it can be seen how educators use initiative to make use of what they have in their environments to improve the learners' skills.



Then, our workbooks!! The learners mostly master the instructions in the workbooks successfully, as it had already been reinforced so well on physical- and concrete level. Workbook 3 has just been completed. The little faces beam with pride when they show us their work!



...But this is not all!!

We are very excited about the way the educators implement our additional program, Crafts for Kingdom Kids, as well. They literally take it and run with it! The theme "Fruit" is but one example of the nine themes completed during the past three months.



Left and below:

We try to involve every possible sense! The fruit is seen, studied, cut, tasted, squeezed out and enjoyed.

What an unforgettable experience for the learners!



Crafts, that nearly look as edible as the real thing, are also made!



Above: We introduce the learners to different paint techniques. This special effect on the paperplates in the middle was obtained by dipping cotton buds into paint and printing hundreds of small dots with it.

Below: Here the learners had great fun while acquiring another painting skill: bubble prints. By blowing coloured bubbles they achieved beautiful marbled prints, while the small muscles of their mouths got exercise too!



Below: Learning is so much fun!! Potato stamps (with the theme “vegetables”), edible vehicles (during the theme “transportation”) and crystal decorations for the winter-theme, all contributed to a lot of excitement in class!



Left: The theme “careers”, taken to another level!!

In the “HOEP-lab” there were awesome experiments:



Our “young scientists” always stand in awe! Above: With the theme “careers” we paused at the job of a geologist for a while. Learners brought different stones to class. The instruction was to test whether one of the stones could be limestone (Off course teacher secretly slipped in a limestone between the heap of stones!). The learners took turns to drip vinegar onto the stones. When the vinegar reacted with the limestone, they were astonished!

The teachers then also explained why this happens: The acid in the vinegar dissolves the loose bits called calcium carbonate in the limestone. It releases a gas (carbon dioxide), making bubbles on the surface. If acid is dripped over a scratched stone and it doesn’t make a fizz, it’s not limestone! The learners do not need to fully grasp or remember all the terminologies, the HOEP experiments are merely there to spark and stimulate interest in the field of science.



Left: Examples of more scientific experiments done during the term. The learners were blown away when they saw how water is absorbed and distributed through leaves. “Torque” is another term that was explained to the learners by building the cutest moving crawler-tractors!

Each of the themes are also connected to the Word of God. An example is the potato stamps in art, the cabbage leaves absorbing and distributing water in the science experiment and then Daniel’s plate of vegetables in the Bible lesson. Learners listened to the Bible verses and

took with them the fact that Daniel had a choice. He and his friends could have chosen to eat the king's food (meat and wine sacrificed to their idols), but they **CHOSE** not to eat it. They chose to do what is right in the eyes of God and only eat food that was not sacrificed to the idols, namely vegetables and water. **Just like Daniel, every child can also CHOOSE to do what is right in life.**

Growth on all levels



We are so thankful to see how even aspects such as classroom layout is improving. Even in crèches with very limited space, a “reading corner” can be seen somewhere. The theme tables also get more and more interesting every year. These are all aspects contributing to making a grade RR and R year an unforgettable learning experience!



Prayer requests and Thank You's!

We ask for your prayers regarding the safety of our team. Many of the areas where we operate are considered dangerous.

We also ask your prayers for each of the 118 educators presenting our program in challenging circumstances. Please pray for them for the strength to keep going. Our hearts break when we see the struggle many of them experience to survive financially. These pictures were taken during a recent class visit to “Blikkiesdorp”, as the specific area in Grabouw is known. The theme table consists of the HOEP-theme poster and 3 examples of vegetables, because that was all they had. The cabbage that the teacher wanted to display had to be used for the children’s lunch...



We do not have enough words to express our thankfulness towards every sponsor. Your continuous support and love make such a difference. Thank you for joining us on this amazing journey and for staying by our sides, month-after-month and year-after-year.

Report compiled by:

HOEP-team 2022

Date:

26 September 2022

Find us on Facebook: Helderberg Outreach Heaven on Earth Project

Read more about us on our website: www.hoep.org.za

Get in touch with us: admin@hoep.org.za

Support us in our mission of putting the young learners of our country in the starting blocks for successful school careers:

ABSA Helderberg, Savings Account,

Account Number: 9114483080, Branch Code: 632005, Swift code: ABSAZAJJ

Reference: HOEP + Initials and Surname