



MDUMBI PRESCHOOL REPORT JANUARY-JUNE 2018

**COMPILED BY
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**TRANSCAPE NPO
EDUCATION**

INTRODUCTION

The Transcape Mdumbi Pre-school is one of the major projects within Transcape. It is at present operating inside Mdumbi backpackers, helping pre-school children in the Mankosi community to be better prepared for Primary education. The Pre-school is in the process of being moved to the new Transcape Education Center, which is a great source of pride for the community. There have however been setbacks due to issues with the electricity provider.



2018 has seen the Education Center enter the final stages of building.



Beautiful winter colours complimenting the newly painted Transcape Education Center. Everyone is very excited to open this center of excellence.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

- To assist and develop our community, by offering additional education to children at pre-school level.
- To contribute to each child's development individually by promoting better health, nutrition, education, psychological wellbeing and to improve the environment within the family and community context.
- To see all children in under developed communities prosper despite challenges.

OVERVIEW

HISTORY

The school was opened on the 17 of January 2007. Since this fateful opening day, the attendance has always been strong and is a great source of pride for the community. Last year the pre-school had 22 pupils, 17 boys and 10 girls. In 2018 we admitted 17 new pupils, 5 boys and 12 girls, bringing the total to 44 pupils. It is a very positive indication that an equal number of girls and boys are attending our School. The School keeps admitting more children each year, employing more teachers as needed and for this reason, the new Education Center was planned.

FIRST TERM 2018

The year started with a lot of excitement as there were many new pupils that needed to settle into routine. The school starts in the morning at 8 o'clock, which proved to be quite the adjustment to our new pupils however, this has improved as the year has progressed.

February saw the pupils learn numbers and the alphabet. For pupils entering their second year of attendance, this was revision, but a benefit was that they encouraged the new pupils to learn quickly. Some students did forget some of the work, but quickly caught up. Other students could remember everything and this was quite encouraging.

For the new pupils, as it is their first time to see and hear these concepts, it did take a bit more time to gain a full understanding. At present all children are doing well and we are happy with the progress.

SECOND TERM

The school closed after the first term on the 28 of March and re-opened on the 10 of April. Before the school opened we made sure that it was ready to receive the learners. We did a thorough cleaning, prepared various lessons, reorganized the materials and selected the material that relates to the theme of the term. It is important to be well prepared for the term, as this form of excellence is also something we want to instill in the children.

OVERVIEW

SECOND TERM (CONTINUED)

During the first term, students had adapted well to waking early and arriving at School on time. There were a few students that needed to adapt after the holidays but did so quickly. The second term ended on the 22nd of June 2018 and will re-open on the 17th of July.

After the holiday, teachers were encouraged as the children remembered the work that was done in the first term. They were confident with the letters of the alphabet and numbers. It was wonderful to see that even the 4-year-olds were able to write their names and recall numbers in the correct sequence. Before starting the lessons we did brain gym exercises (OWL LOOK). This was done to help children to improve visual and auditory skills and also head rotation.

MEDICAL CHECK-UPS:

On the 25 of January, we were visited by a doctor from the local Canzibe hospital. Dr Sasha gave general examinations to all the children. The doctor also looked at each pupil's clinic card for missing immunizations and some of the children were referred to the clinic for further evaluations.



HEALTH EDUCATION:

On the 23rd of May, we were visited by nurse Nomsa and the mentor mothers, which is another Transcape partnership to assist new mothers. The children enjoyed playing fantasy games to make believe that they were mothers putting a doll on their backs (as is tradition in Xhosa culture) going to the clinic to care for the sick baby. This will educate the children about the clinics and promote the use thereof by parents if the children share these stories at home. The opportunity was also used to give children vitamin A tablets for worms.

OVERVIEW

TEACHER / PARENT MEETING:

A teacher/parent evening was held early in the First term, on the 23rd of January. School policies were discussed and parents were told about new projects, such as swimming classes.

At the meeting, parents agreed to the new policies and signed permission slips for the various activities. It is important to us that parents are involved with the School processes.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:

A creative activity class was held on the topic of pets. The area has a problem with neglected pets and through creative fun classes, we hope to encourage families to take better care of their animals. At the end of the class children used odds and ends from recycled material to create cat faces. This was a great source of pride for each child to show their creation.



The children took their crafts home and excitedly showed everyone who wanted to know what the crafts were about.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

SWIMMING CLASSES:

Pupils attended swimming classes for the first term of School. The swimming classes are 1 hour in duration, including the short walk to local Tshani river where they are held. Children are encouraged to learn basic swimming skills in a fun and interactive way. Children are also scored after each class to evaluate progress. This is only for teachers and parents and children are not told scores.

Pupils truly enjoy these classes and it is quite important to have them, as many local community members can't swim. We have seen great improvements as well as a general eagerness to learn.

During the first part of the second term, pupils continued with swimming lessons. Swimming lessons were however suspended in the last few weeks, as the weather had turned and it is too cold to continue. Swimming will pick up again in the fourth term.



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

MDUMBI GREEN FAIR:

Children were encouraged to participate in the Mdumbi Green Fair, held on the weekend of the 18th to 20th of May this year. The Pre-School children partook in the Forest Rehabilitation programme. Together with Teacher Nokubonga and our volunteers, children helped to plant a tree and were told about the importance of indigenous trees and protecting our natural heritage.



CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the School is doing very well and the pupils are thriving. It is a great source of pride for the community and children are encouraged to attend.

We trust that this report will give some insight into the work being done by Transcape as well as the community.

'In the end, we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand and we will understand only what we are taught.' - Baba Dioum