



PSP NEWSLETTER

Keeping you up to date with PSP teacher development

2020 TERM 1

From the Director

Parent involvement benefits children, teachers and schools

Parent involvement promotes a positive learning environment. It helps children realise that the adults in their lives care about them and work together in their best interest. Home-school partnerships strengthen classrooms, reduce absenteeism, and improve learner behaviour.

Parent involvement also promotes positive interactions between parents, teachers and children. Parents will have a better idea of what happens in the child's day, which can help improve communication within the family. The teacher can get a better understanding of the family dynamics, cultural background and challenges faced, in order to adapt lessons for specific needs. Knowing more about a child's family life can also help teachers prepare lessons that better fit their needs. At the same time, parents may develop a better understanding of the teacher's expectations and the daily struggles they face in class. This way, teachers and parents can work better together.

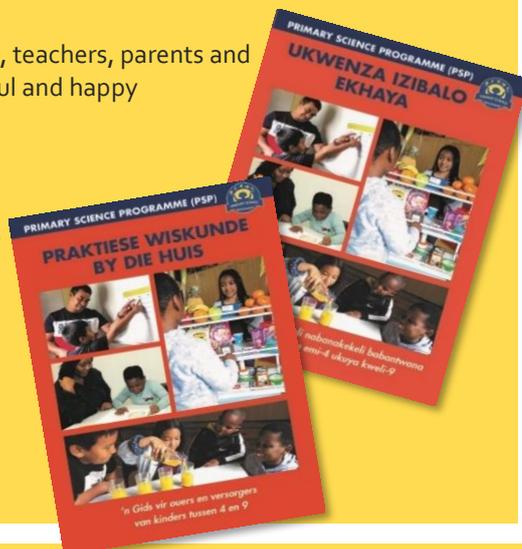
There are many ways teachers can collaborate with parents. Teachers can advise parents on how to help children at home, and parents also have important information about their children that teachers ought to know. Teachers can share resources with parents, invite them to participate in activities, and help them monitor their children's progress. Parents will gain more confidence in their own parenting skills, and feel more capable of helping their children learn.

Parents who are actively involved in their child's learning tend to value teachers, leading to improved confidence and morale. When we engage parents our school communities are enriched. Schools with strong support from parents perform well, provide high quality programmes, and have a lower dropout rate.

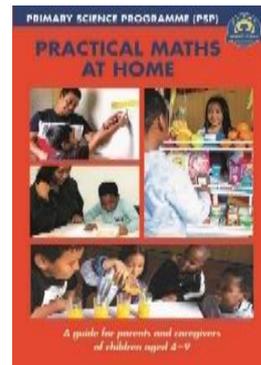
Wishing all schools, teachers, parents and children a successful and happy 1st term 2020.

Zorina

Dr. Zorina Dharsey



Fun with numbers at home



Also in isiXhosa and Afrikaans.

Our new 'Practical Maths at Home' book is a day-to-day tool showing parents and care-givers how to let children aged 4 – 9 become aware of numbers at home in a fun and informal way, for example counting slices of bread and working out how many sandwiches they can make, or asking how to share an apple equally amongst three children. Such activities can build up children's general knowledge and

language skills which will help with their schooling.

The book will be formally launched at Sonwabo Primary School on 7 March from 9 – 12pm and will also be widely distributed to crèches and ECD centres.



Parents were introduced to the guide at St Augustine's Primary in December 2019.

More Maths fun

Teachers and learners in 25 schools participating in our Counting with Coronation Cluster Project have been delighted to receive their Foundation Phase Maths kits this term, full of wonderful resources for teaching and learning!

Thank you Coronation Fund Managers!



Appreciation from learners at Jongensklip Primary.

PSP COURSES: ACCESS THE COURSE PROGRAMME ON YOUR SMARTPHONE



Remember to register your school for 2020 PSP courses.
Contact Yanga on 021 691 9039.



PSP Innovation Project courses now also offered off-site



Grade 5 NST teachers building skeletons using struts – this is a good practical problem-solving activity for children.

Innovation courses will now also be offered in three new geographic 'hubs', increasing accessibility for teachers. Schools in **Kraaifontein** can participate in NST Grades 4-7 courses at Bloekombos Primary. Schools in **Atlantis** can participate in FP Life Skills and NST Grade 4 – 7 courses at Wesfleur Primary, and FP Maths and Language courses will also be offered in **Mitchell's Plain** at Westend Primary.

In response to many requests, the PSP is now offering courses in Grade 7 Technology for the first time.

Scan QR-Code or [click URL](#) to access PSP's Innovation Course Programmes on your smartphone.

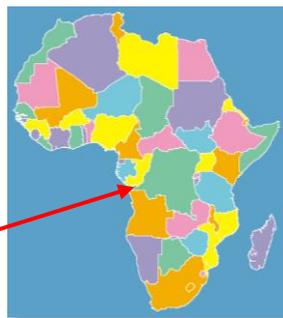
<http://bit.ly/2NUAZFh>



Nearly 100 teachers attended the first Atlantis Hub workshop on 25 January 2020.

Edu-Conservation in Africa

PSP is collaborating with the Cape Town Science Centre to introduce an exciting new edu-conservation resource into seven countries on the African continent. The project is funded by SPAC (Sabine Plattner African Charities) and will roll out over the next 18 months. A scoping exercise has already been conducted in **Congo-Brazzaville**.



MCEN Conference

PSP facilitators, Nadiema and Rugaya, presented a lesson "Interview an indigenous marine plant" at the 2020 Marine & Coastal Educator Network Conference on 20 January.

PSP provided 50 "Learning about Cycads" books and posters. The forty delegates from all across South Africa who attended the training workshop were thrilled about the book!

PSP BELIEVES...

Children learn better when their parents and family are interested, supportive and encouraging.



IMPROVED SYSTEMICS

We are happy to report that nine out of the ten 'Counting with Coronation' schools in the Overberg District increased their FP Maths systemic results with more than 8 %.

NEW BEGINNINGS FOR PSP FROM SEPTEMBER 2020



Our 15 year lease at Edith Stephens Nature Reserve

concludes at the end of September 2020. The PSP office will be relocating, while training courses and HOEP environmental lessons with Wendy Hitchcock will continue as usual at Edith Stephens Nature Reserve.

We are currently on the look-out for suitable premises.



Delegates interviewing a plant at MCEN Conference.



PRIMARY SCIENCE PROGRAMME (PSP)

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