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PSP NEWS

1st TERM 2001

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Greetings to all in this year 2001!

The PSP operations commenced with great vigour again this year as more than 200 teachers helped to plan the programme of courses for the year.

It is a source of great inspiration to the PSP to see so many teachers seriously seeking to improve their teaching. We hope that the programme proves useful this year. Other new developments are:

- a new full-time Science Implementor (to save our over-worked team!)
- part-time Materials Co-ordinator (to manage the large body of resource materials developed by the PSP over the years)
- joint workshops with the WCED subject advisors with grade 8 & 7 science teachers
- active participation in the process of developing a new National Curriculum.

This promises to be a very exciting year – hope it proves to be productive as well!
Regards from Mascha and the PSP team:
Gcobisa, Vagriuah, Sandra, Rose, Charlotte.



THE PICTURE PACK IS HERE

A Picture Resource Pack for the classroom about Natural Phenomena



The PSP has just launched a new pack of 24 large pictures for you to use in the Theme Earth and Beyond.

These pictures show people coping with natural phenomena such as storms, volcanoes, snow, earthquakes, floods etc in innovative ways. They are A4 size, high quality black and white pictures, so you can easily photocopy them for your classroom. They can be used for Natural Sciences and also for Human and Social Sciences (HSS) and in the Foundation Phase - they are also a wonderful resource for Language development.

These sets are available from the PSP offices at a reasonable price. Please contact us and order yours today!

Boland Maths & Science In-service and support project



Sandra Mahote(PSP), Sarie Smit (Programme for Maths, University of Stellenbosch), Mascha Ainslie(PSP), Miss August (Principal at PJB Cona Primary School, Worcester)

STREAMLING THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM 2005

TEACHERS - YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THE NEW CURRICULUM FOR SOUTH AFRICA

The process of streamlining C2005 has finally got underway in Pretoria.

Each Learning Area has a small Working Group of 6 people, who were nominated from all around the country. They have the task of developing new, clear national Learning Outcomes as well as Assessment Standards for each grade.

One of the PSP's nominations, Dr Jonathan Clark, who also serves on the PSP's Joint Management Board was selected to serve on the Working Group for Natural Sciences. We have worked with him for years and are very pleased to see him in that role. Congratulations, Jonathan!

Jonathan would like to work with some experienced and dedicated teachers (grades 1 – 9!), who are interested in participating in this historic process of developing the new curriculum over this year.

Please let us know if you would like to participate or want to find out more. This promises to be very exciting! Tel:6378179

PSP JOINS FORCES WITH THE WCED

The Natural Sciences Learning Area Committee (LAC) have joined forces with other in-service providers to run a follow-up workshop with all grade 8 & 7 science teachers during the first term across the province. The PSP and resource people from Cenedus, University of Stellenbosch and Pentech have participated in the conceptualising and planning of these workshops and will be co-presenting with WCED Subject Advisors.

The focus is on Assessment and will provide some good examples and suggestions. This is an important step forward in the development of a more constructive relationship between NGO service providers and the department.



LEARNING PROGRAMME BOOKLETS ON THE THEME MATTER AND MATERIALS

Booklets have now been produced based on the Matter and Materials courses of last year. They are now available in English and Afrikaans for grades 4, 5, 6, and 7 at the PSP offices at Uluntu Centre. Tel: 6378179

GREAT RESPONSE AT ANNUAL MASS PLANNING FORUM 2001

This year we were delighted to welcome over two hundred teachers and we got off to a very business-like start.

First, representatives from Kirstenbosch, MNT ScienCentre, South African Museum and the Astronomical Observatory came to explain what programmes they can offer for teachers and learners (see their contact details below). Then we split into interest groups for Science, Maths & H.S.S. where teachers put forward their specific needs & priorities for in-service education for this year.

This is a very important process for the PSP. It ensures that we have a useful programme to offer teachers. Thank you to all who attended!

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| <p>Kirstenbosch: contact Sindy
Tel:7998800</p> <p>MTN ScienCentre: contact Ntsikelelo
Tel:592 8100</p> <p>S African Astronomical Observatory: contact Case Rijdsdyk
Tel 447 0025</p> <p>South African Museum: contact Sithembele
Tel:424 3330</p> |
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Fond Farewell



PSP bid a fond farewell to Zynoe Patience who decided to take a break from full time employment and spend more time with her children and home-school. We will miss her lively energy and wish her well!

PSP CERTIFICATION

The PSP held certification events at Uluntu Centre and in the Boland to celebrate the excellent course attendance as agreed with teachers in the PSP Mass Planning Forum last year.



Ms N.A. Tunguntwana of Van Cutsem Primary School in Boland receives a certificate from Ms August – Principal at PJB Cona Primary School.

BIRD RESOURCE PACKS ARE BACK AGAIN

Some teachers may remember the PSP RESOURCE PACKS, which were developed with teachers over some months in 1994. Many schools received a pack then.

Well, the PSP has revised the Bird activities, and put in some assessment suggestions and made them compatible with Outcomes Based Education (OBE). The good news is that the WWF SA have fundraised for the further production of these Bird Resource Packs and in partnership with Share-net, many more Bird Resource Packs will be produced this year.

The PSP will supply schools with Bird Packs and will run workshops with all the staff of schools to let teachers experience and enjoy these activities, as each school receives their Bird Pack.

