

- [Support us!](#)
- [What's new at PSP](#)
- [Mission Statement](#)
- [History](#)
- [Core Activities](#)
- [Need for ongoing support](#)
- [Courses we offer](#)
- [Materials for Sale](#)
- [Governance](#)
- [Annual reports](#)
- [PSP newsletters](#)
- [External Evaluation](#)
- [Map to PSP offices](#)



## PSP NEWS 2<sup>nd</sup> TERM 2002

Western Cape Primary Science Programme, N.Y. 108, Uluntu Centre, Guguletu  
P.O. Box 529, Howard Place 7450 Tel: (021) 637 8179 Fax: (021) 633 2994  
e-mail: info@psp.org.za

...ss!

We have a new PSP Advisory Committee! The election of 12 new teachers to the Advisory Committee proceeded smoothly and appreciate the support and encouragement of these strong teachers.

They will be formally introduced at the PSP AGM in June 2002.

We welcome the new partnerships with 'old friends':

- TIP (Teachers' INSET Project) in the PSP Cluster support, which focuses on Planning and Managing your Science Curriculum in three EMDC's; South, East and Central
- IMSTUS (Institute for Maths, Science & Technology of the University of Stellenbosch) in providing Maths support for teachers at Uluntu.

The PSP has experienced successful partnerships with these organisations in other projects.

Two highlights coming up this term - 1. An Introduction to DNA – a wonderful hands-on workshop for any science teachers (especially grade 7). This will be a great opportunity to learn all about DNA and how it is used in society today. Please note there is a choice of two dates!

2. A slide show / seminar on "Developing our knowledge of the Solar System". This will be another excellent learning experience for all science teachers.

We are very grateful to the presenters of these teacher workshops: Prof Valerie Corfield of the MRC / Centre for Molecular & Cellular Biology and Gordon Bosch, an excellent passionate Astronomy resource person.

We wish all teachers well during this very busy term.

Please contact the PSP if you have questions or comments about the PSP activities.

Mascha for the PSP teach: Rose, Charlotte, Gcobisa, Zowi (and Sandra & Vagriuah)



### A VISIT TO ROBBERN ISLAND

Did you know that during the last 300 years people with leprosy, common criminals as well as Xhosa Kings were also all banished to Robben Island?

At the conclusion of the last PSP course on Social Sciences (HSS), (run by Ruth Versfeld) 60 teachers and PSP staff prepared for and visited Robben Island during the Easter holidays.

We had an excellent guided tour around the island in perfect weather. Teachers had opportunities to ask questions and discuss the political events after 1960 – as well as to learn about Robben Island's important role in the early colonial history of the Cape.

**If any teachers use the activities or information from this visit – or if they take their learners to Robben Island, please contact the PSP for feedback to the Robben Island Heritage educators – we would all love to hear about it!**

We would like to thank the **HUGG Foundation** for their sponsorship towards entrance fees for 60 teachers.



**After teachers had carefully planned the content/activities of this visit, Vanessa, the Heritage Educator from Robben Island and Elias Mzama lead the tour around the island during the Easter holidays.**

### WELCOME TO THE PSP NEWS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following teachers have been elected to serve on the PSP Advisory Committee. We warmly welcome these teachers to the governance of the PSP and hope they find their task rewarding. They are:

**From left to right: Makhaya Mguda, Phillip Nkosi, Mcebisi Mnconywa, Gugu Katsha, Mthunzi Kwezi, Lunga Mda, Ruby Gxula, Nozipho Gazi, Mandisa Ntlabati, Luvuyo Selana, Seated: Thetha Sithole, Simphiwe Mbene**

**These teachers represent schools from the following areas**

Group 1 Schools: (Gugs, Nyanga, Philippi, Crossroads) Mr Mthunzi Kwezi – Siviwe Primary, Ms Mandisa Ntlabati – Qingqa Mntwana Prim., Ms Ruby Gxula – Siyazakha Prim., Mr Lunga Mda – Hlengisa Prim.

Group 2 Schools: (North side of Gugs, Langa) Mr Zola Mqoboka – Siyabulela Prim. (not in the picture), Ms Nozipho Gazi – Mokone Primary, Mr Luvuyo Selana – Lehlohonolo Prim.

Group 3 schools: (Khayelitsha South) Mr Mcebisi Mnconywa – Nomsa Maphongwana, Mr Simphiwe Mbene – Isiphiwo

Group 4 schools: (Khayelitsha North / Site B, Site C) Mr Patrick Mkapuza – Vuselela Prim (not in the picture) Mr Gugu Katsha – Soyisile Prim, Phillip Nkosi – Ummangaliso Prim.

#### Thank you to the out-going Advisory Committee

We are very grateful to the Advisory Committee members who stand down at this time. They are very wise teachers who have been an excellent Advisory Committee. They played a very important role during the time when the National PSP had to close and this Advisory Committee made a great contribution in helping to establish our own, independent new PSP. We will always be very grateful to them!



### WORKSHOPS ON DNA

**Learn about DNA and how it is used in society today! All grade 7 teachers are invited to these excellent workshops this term. (See programme for details)**

**The PSP highly recommends this as a wonderful learning experience for teachers!**

### PSP welcomes a new part - time science fieldworker in the Boland

After months of searching, the PSP has appointed a part-time science fieldworker to support the schools in the Boland Maths & Science Project (BMS). Ms Sandra Rossouw is an experienced primary school teacher, who has been supporting the maths in the project since last year. She has therefore already developed a good relationship with the schools concerned.

We wish her a productive and rewarding period with the PSP.



**Sandra Rossouw (middle) with Gcobisa & Rose from the PSP**

### External Evaluation / Research Study of the PSP

The report of the pilot study, which was conducted with 20 teachers last year, is now available at the PSP office. The findings of this pilot study have informed the next steps of the evaluation, which will start in the next few weeks.

The next steps will:

- Build on and deepen the picture of the effectiveness of the PSP teacher support programme - with both formative and summative dimensions
- Pick up on particular questions / concerns uncovered in the pilot – and in particular, issues of assessment - to find out what the learners are in fact learning.

This part of the formative evaluation will seek to guide the PSP and the teachers on ways in which they can improve the learners' achievements.

The PSP is very grateful to all the teachers for their generous co-operation and support of this evaluation until now.

### Buon Voyage to Vagriuah & Sandra

Both Vagriuah Kariem and Sandra Mahote were selected to participate in a 3 - week Environmental Education course in Stockholm, Sweden. The course is called: Environmental Education Processes in Formal Education and The main objective of the course is to enable the participants to explore a wide range of perspectives of environmental education and developing resource materials. The training programme is being offered by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) together with the SADC Regional Environmental Education Centre based here in South Africa at Kwazulu Natal.

The PSP is looking forward to strengthening the EE aspect of our work, through Sandra & Vagriuah's interaction with teachers.

The WCED have made this e-mail address available for any questions from teachers regarding the curriculum:  
Rurchardv@wcedlist.wcape.gov.za