



# PSP NEWSLETTER

Keeping you up to date with PSP teacher development

2019 TERM 2

## From the Director

### Reflection helps learning

Reflection allows for self-correction and improvement. As such, it is strategically integrated into all PSP processes. We use a variety of well-developed tools, such as needs analyses, baseline assessments, teacher questionnaires / tests, classroom schedules, and we are also working on learner assessments to gather information about school, teacher and learner performance. Rich evidence acquired from these quantitative, and also qualitative sources such as case studies and school reports provide a comprehensive understanding of teacher learning, and how the curriculum is interpreted in the classroom.

This ongoing measurement of, and reflection on the nature and extent of our work is vital for tracking and assessing our impact on teaching practice and children's learning. It also informs our decisions to adjust our approach to courses and classroom support where necessary, and adapt teacher resources appropriately to promote more meaningful children's learning.

Wishing all schools, teachers, learners and parents / caregivers an amazing second term 2019.

Dr. Zorina Dharsey

## Sustainability in the Cluster Project



*The PSP Science team:*

*Rose Thomas, Novosti Buta, Sandra Rossouw, Ntsiki Mahote, Zorina Dharsey and Nadiema Gamielidien*

A new two-year Cluster Project cycle began in January. In collaboration with the North and Overberg education districts, this year in addition to new schools, we have included 9 schools from previous project cycles to look at the sustainability of PSP practices. PSP's Science team have been warmly welcomed back to these schools, although some of the original Science teachers have moved to different schools. The PSP support for these schools will be tailored according to Needs Analysis findings with respect to the effective use and management of the Science kit apparatus, the resourcing of new teachers and support with classroom management and curriculum matters.

## On the Astronomy front...



Be on the lookout for:

### ASTROQUIZ 2019 dates:

Round 1 of the nationwide Astroquiz for all Grade 7 learners. Watch this space for **new dates**.

PODCAST: Watch the exciting things happening in astronomy research and technology in Africa.

Anyone can listen... go to [thecosmicsavannah.com](http://thecosmicsavannah.com).



Sandra Rossouw was delighted to see Science teaching flourishing at Gansbaai Primary.

### PLEASE REMEMBER



For maximum benefit from Innovation courses, teachers must please:

- ✓ Book your places in advance
- ✓ Arrive on time

### PSP COURSES: IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS



Book your place 2 days before every course.



Courses start at 14:30 (FP) and 15:00 (IP & SP).



Don't be late as there may not be space for you.



SACE points awarded for full attendance.

# Inquiry based Science and Maths Education (IBSME)



Subject Advisors were given scenarios to work out processes for solving problems and thus develop thinking skills.

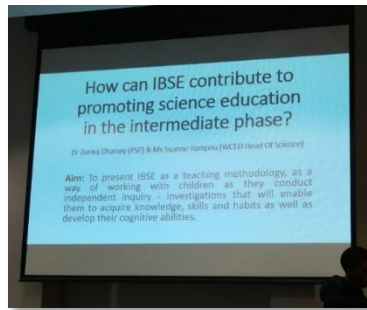
An exciting PSP collaboration with UWC, WCED, AIMSSEC, UCT, SUNCEP and CPUT to promote IBSME is making good progress in advocating for inquiry-based learning methods to grow, be contextualised and trialled in the Western Cape.



In March our Science team, together with Suanne Rampou, (WCED Head of Science)

presented a 4-day training course with

WCED NST Subject Advisors. They experimented with inquiry-based methods which will enable them to train Science teachers in their districts and facilitate the implementation of IBSE methods at local schools. Implementation nodes will be created and teacher trials of IBSE monitored in different classroom contexts. Subject Advisors will report on progress at the next IBSE conference in June 2019.



At the end of March, Zorina Dharsey co-presented the promotion of IBSME with Suanne Rampou at the WCED *Education Conversations for the Future* conference at the Cape Town International Convention Centre. Their presentation generated interest and support from officials and primary and high school teachers.

## PSP BELIEVES...

Many different forms of evidence are needed to adequately track children's learning.



## MEET OUR NEW FACILITATORS

A warm welcome to Nolitha and Rugaya

Nolitha Siyaphi (left) is a Foundation Phase specialist. She brings 14 years of teaching experience and a passion for working with little children. Excited to join the FP Maths team, Nolitha is especially eager to start supporting teachers.



Rugaya Essa (right) is a Science specialist, with 24 years' high school teaching experience, which included mentorship of Science teachers in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Rugaya is thrilled by the "...enthusiasm from everybody which I have encountered here at the PSP."

# Community Science in Vredenburg



Nadiema Gamielien represented the PSP at the 10th anniversary of the ArcelorMittal Science Centre in Vredenburg. This was a day of fun Science experiences for the whole community, linked to their theme 'The Science of Food'. Nadiema created exciting practical activities on growing yeast and children enjoyed identifying the 7 life processes of all living things.



## PRIMARY SCIENCE PROGRAMME (PSP)

Edith Stephens Nature Reserve, Govan Mbeki Road, Philippi 7785  
 Website: [www.psp.org.za](http://www.psp.org.za) | Email: [info@psp.org.za](mailto:info@psp.org.za) | Tel: +27 (0)21 691 9039 | Fax: +27 (0)21 691 6350

