



PSP NEWSLETTER

Keeping you up to date with PSP teacher development

2022 TERM 2

From the Director

PSP consistently delivers

Many principals and teachers trust PSP's work, and often express appreciation for staff commitment to go the extra mile while providing quality support and guidance where it is needed. Our facilitators and admin staff maintained shoulder to the wheel this term, implementing all training and support programmes as planned in spite of various difficulties of illnesses and loadshedding.

PSP's Cluster Project started the year with supplying science kits containing much needed equipment to promote practical science teaching and learning. Training for SMTs on managing the kits efficiently and replacing lost and broken items accompanied the provision of the kits. Classroom support with practical lessons strengthened teachers' ability to use the equipment confidently and effectively in group work.

We conceptualised and presented a series of workshops upon request from the City of Cape Town to guide teachers with integrating aspects of climate change and global warming with the CAPS curriculum / ATPs. And, PSP also experimented with something new, offering paid Maths courses which were very well received by InterSen teachers. We are encouraged to build on these and other successes as we move forward.

PSP believes regular quality training and support inputs help teachers strengthen their teaching competencies. We believe highly competent teachers are the key to bringing about positive effects on children's learning, strong enough to close achievement gaps and to help low performing learners to catch up and improve.

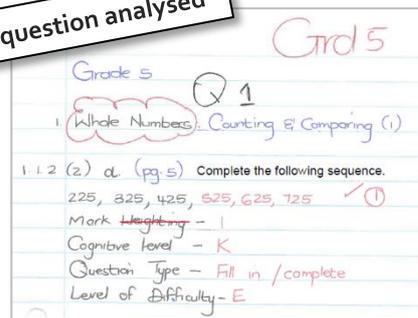
We wish schools, teachers and learners a brilliant end to Term 2, a happy mid-year holiday and safe return to school for the third term. ☺

Dr. Zorina Dharsey

In Term 1, 1246 teachers from 269 schools benefitted from PSP activities.

Exciting new online course for Maths Assessment

Example question analysed



PSP's first paid course for teachers focused on developing a bank of Maths questions. Teachers engaged in the processes of understanding assessment knowledge and skills, through

analysing example Maths questions relating to content to be assessed in the Term 2 controlled tests. The 24 Grade 4-7 teachers who attended the three-session course also developed their own questions, looked at cognitive levels, levels of difficulty, mark allocation and weighting, and the time it should take – all within the framework of the strengthened Annual Teaching Plans (ATPs) and assessment guidelines.

Teachers requested more such opportunities to explore setting balanced question papers on the Maths topics to be covered in Terms 3 and 4.

"I benefited most from creating a question bank. The discussion as we scrutinised the questions was an eye-opener."

"I will implement the use of cognitive levels in my question papers and in the class while teaching."

Extracts and tips from PSP's Practical Maths at Home resource booklet for parents and caregivers are being shared on a Facebook page for parents at Sonwabo Primary, St Augustine's Primary and Vergenoegd Primary, along with tips on language and sensory development posted by the Community Action Partnership (CAP). PSP and CAP are partners in the Capsule Project funded by Coronation Fund Managers.



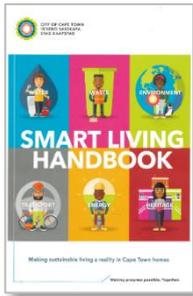
ALL PSP COURSES ARE SACE ACCREDITED



Booking essential for all courses – see programme for booking links



Climate Smart for teachers



In collaboration with the City of Cape Town, PSP facilitated two online Climate Smart workshops for Grades 4 – 7 teachers this year, focussing on understanding

basic concepts around climate change, our responsibilities as citizens, and the infrastructure provided by the City to live 'Climate Smart'. How to integrate these topics into the CAPS curriculum was also addressed.

Online workshops were followed by three in-person workshops where teachers were involved in practical Science and Language activities relating to climate change.



Discussing a practical example of permafrost

ALL WELCOME:
Look out for the SMS booking reminders

Term 3 online Climate Smart workshops:

Monday 1 August and Tuesday 16 August from 14:45 – 17:00

- What we know about climate change and why it is happening
- Building resilience together – people and cities
- Practical ideas for the classroom regarding energy and waste; water usage and our environment

Science kits delivered to NST Cluster schools

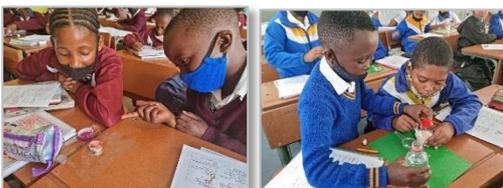
Five schools in the East district, and five schools in the Overberg district were excited to unpack and use new equipment. The Science kits contain essential equipment that cannot be easily replaced with recycled materials.



Teachers at False Bay Primary checking equipment in the Science kits

Return to regular classroom support

Teachers responded enthusiastically to PSP's return to in-classroom support in our Maths and Science projects.



LEFT: Grade 4 learners observe the change of state, as wax changes from a solid to a liquid.

RIGHT: Grade 5 learners processing flour and water to make a sticky, gluey substance.



In-classroom PSP Maths support for Foundation Phase teachers forms part of the Counting with Coronation project. Here learners develop their number sense while playing with place values.

PSP BELIEVES...



Positive and regular written or verbal feedback helps children progress quickly in their learning and has a high impact on children's confidence.

TOP TIPS FOR TEACHERS

WORKING WITH PARENTS / CAREGIVERS

Support for learning Maths at home:

- ✓ Talk about Maths in a positive way.
- ✓ Encourage persistence, some problems need time to solve.
- ✓ Encourage your child to experiment with different approaches, so they learn by trying various ways to solve a problem, e.g. how to share an apple amongst 5 children.

FOR THE TEACHER

Differentiation to support reading:

- ✓ When reading the same level of text for an activity, select learners to read extracts that are at their reading level.
- ✓ Get learners to read sections as a character of a dialogue, story or text. Children enjoy dramatisations of dialogue.

Intervention to support reading

- ✓ Have children read the same thing several times.
- ✓ When you're trying to improve fluency, it helps to see the same text multiple times.

PSP FREE ONLINE COURSES FOR TERM 3

NOTE TO ALL TEACHERS

Look out for our PSP programme with joining links which will be shared via email and SMS before the start of the new term. Please book in advance.



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